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#### 'Swiss banks undervalue unclaimed Holocaust accounts'

BATSHEVA TSUR. MARILYN HENRY, and news agencies

JEWISH leaders said yesterday they have doubts about claims by Swiss banks that they only hold some 38.7 million Swiss francs (\$32.3 million) in unclaimed accounts apparently owned by Ho-

The figure is much lower than previous estimates, which ran into hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars.

"Twenty or 30 years ago they said they had less than 10 million ... and now they found 30 million," Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg told The Associated Press. "Let's wait another 30 years and see what they come up

The Swiss Bankers' Association said Wednesday that 51 banks in Switzerland and Lichtenstein are holding deposits from before May 8, 1945, in accounts which have been dormant since or for more than 10 years. Eleven minor banks were unable to "positively deny" that such as-sets might have been deposited, said Jean-Paul Chapuis, a member of the association's board.

The rumors about huge assets hidden in Swiss banks belonging to Holocaust victims are totally unfounded," Chapuis added.

He said the figures reflect the final outcome of a survey of 400 banks, and that not all the reported dormant accounts necessarily

on But

belong to Holocaust victims.

Burgs of the man post fewish
Congress President Edgar Bronfman negotiated for months with Swiss bankers, who had agreed to. operate with their organizations in tracking down the financial assets.

Calling it "a question of decen-Burg said the bankers broke their promise when they made Wednesday's announcement

without consultation. It had earlier been agreed with the association that the process of locating financial assets and properties - and the eligibility of Holocaust survivors and their families to receive them - would be "transparent" and open in order to prevent any doubts.

"The Swiss Bankers' Association did not fulfill this promise," said a statement issued by Burg and Bronfman. "The matter was handled without the cooperation of all involved parties. Hence there are doubts. We wonder -

what do they have to hide?" They added that they are awaiting a more suitable response. "Fifty years after the fact, we would expect a bit more sensitivity from the Swiss Bankers' Association and the Swiss government," the

Jewish leaders said. Silvia Matile, spokeswoman for the Swiss Bankers' Association, expressed surprise over the reaction of the Jewish organizations.

"No one can seriously assert that we don't take the victims seriously," she said. She said the association has continued to consult regularly with the organizations and regrets that they appear unin-terested in a further dialogue.

The association's president, Georg Krayer, said that since bank accounts are not marked according to a client's racial or religious background, the figures which spoke of billions were "utter fantasy" and based largely on assumptions, the Bloomberg news agency

(Continued on Page 22)

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ENDS 5:57 5:59 5:57 BEGINS SHABBAT 4:43 5:01 Tel Aviv





Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu (left) and Tsomet chairman Rafael Eitan exchange initialed copies of their alignment pact in Tel Aviv yesterday. Story, Page 2.

## 'Yediot's' Vardi, Ben-Ari to be indicted

YEDIOT Aharonot editor Moshe Vardi and news editor Ruth Ben-Ari will be indicted on three charges of wiretapping by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court early next week, the Justice Ministry announced yesterday.

Police sources said the charges relate to commissioning wiretapping on the phone of former Yediot editor-in-chief Dov Yudkovsky after he moved to Ma'ariv; attempting to bug the phone of graphic artist Orit Lipshitz, whom Vardi suspected of leaking information; and listening to an illegally recorded conversation between Yediot publisher Ar-

Vardi was unavailable for comment, and it is still not known whether he will resign, but

this latest indictment is likely to cause a upheaval at Yediot, Ben-Ari left her job as news editor this week after a three-year term, but will be assuming another post at the paper. Last Friday, State Attorney Edna Arbel

met with Tel Aviv District Attorney Miriam Rosenthal to decide on the charges, based on police recommendations. According to Ma'ariv, Vardi underwent a pre-indictment hearing last week.

Vardi's name first surfaced when private investigator Rafi-Friedan (on trial on soc. 50 counts of wiretapping, many on behalf of Nimrodi) told Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court that he knew that Vardi and Ben-Ari commis-

sioned a tap on Yudkovsky's phone. Last summer, Vardi and Ben-Ari were arrested. They later volunteered additional in-formation to police following a civil suit filed

by Yndkovsky. Information implicating Vardi and Ben-Ari was given to police hy Friedan, Ya'acov Bak (corrently serving a prison sentence for at-tempted murder); Amir Ben-Asher (on trial on the same charges); Honi Mizaki (currently on trial with Friedan); and Ya'acov Tsur (Friedan's former partner, who turned state's evidence against Nimrodi and others).

According to the police, Vard, and Zen-Ari commissioned Bak and Ben-Asher to bug phones. The tapping was carried out by Friedan, Tsur, and Mizaki.

# Peres to call early election on Sunday

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres might announce his decision to hold early elections on Sunday, Labor sources said yesterday.

They report that Peres's close associates advise that he make the early elections announcement everyone expects as soon as possible, because his failure do do so at this point damages his credibility.

Peres continues to maintain that his mind is not yet made up, saying only that his decision will be announced by February 15 at the latest.

The prime minister consulted at length yesterday with his early elections team to weigh the feasihility of the different dates and the possible legal ramifications of the different alternatives. Labor sources were again betting last night that elections will take place on May 28, a day after they said their money was on June 4.

Conferring with Peres last night were his party's secretarygeneral, Nissim Zvilli, Interior Minister Haim Ramon, and Justice Minister David Liba'i. They discussed how to call for early elections and when to schedule

Peres was advised not to postpone his early elections announcement any longer, as it has become a laughing matter with a public well aware that the decision to go to early elections had been taken weeks ago. What is happening now appears like pre-

tense and is bad for Peres's image, it was argued.

Ramon and Liha'i were each asked to prepare reports from their ministries' perspectives on the problems involved with various election dates. It was agreed that there must be enough time to allow for new parties to register, a procedure which in itself takes 92 days. Any election date which does not allow sufficient time could, in Liha'i's opinion, result in a High Court ruling against that date.

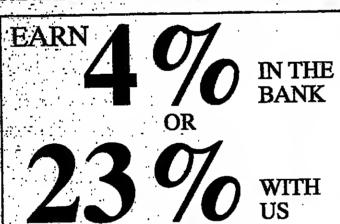
As things appeared yesterday, according to Labor sources, the favorite date again is May 28. This was the date, they said, which had been repeatedly men-tioned in last night's meeting as the one with the least problems attached to it and the date about which most of the probes and the discussions centered.

Analytical attention was also paid, however, to May 21 and June 4, indicating that they had not been entirely erased from the Labor calendar.

Zvilli asserted last night that "the date had not yet heen picked. Peres did not mention a date he prefers to anyone. Despite all the talk, the decision just had not been made yet."

The Likud complained yesterday that Labor intends to hand down a fait accompli without even going through the motions of consulting with the opposition prior to fixing the new elections date, as is the custom.

Labor MK Avigdor Kabalani, (Continued on Page 22)



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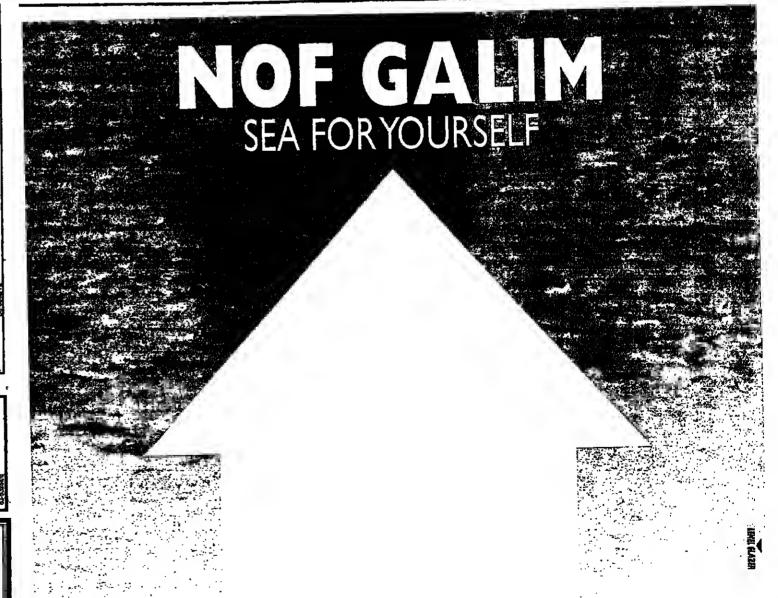
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## Likud, Tsomet initial joint Knesset pact

WITH a champagne toast, theagreement between the Likud. and Tsomet was initialed vesterday, after the Knesset factions of both parties gave their approval to the fielding of a joint ticket in the upcoming elections.

Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu and Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan held a joint: press conference after the aigning

On Tuesday, the Likud faction had rejected the agreement, demanding that Netanyahu obtain a firmer undertaking from Tsomet not to leave the list to join with the opposition. The changes were made in the agreement on

The agreement itself cannot be signed until 90 days before the elections, according to election laws, when it will then be subject tn the approval of the two parties' central committees. This will be a mere formality, as both Netanyahu and Eitan are powerful enough to get the agreement

Netanyahu described the agreement as "heralding a new era in the national camp. In recent years we have known too much division in that camp, a fact which cost us the last election. Now that the national camp's two largest parties have joined in a

single ticket, this signals a real revolution."

According to Netanyahu, "The choice now is between the left which will withdraw from every centimeter of the Golan, cause the redivision of Jerusalem, and create a Palestinian state next to Israel's densest population centers - and the national camp which will leave the Golan in Israel's hands, prevent any division of Jerusalem, and allow only Arab self-rule in some locations, but not a Palestinian state."

Eitan said, "This alliance is not only intended for the elections. hut also beyond it. We are not making contingency plans in the event of an electoral defeat, because'we aim to win."

Itim adds: After signing the joint agreement, Liknd and Tsomet signed annther deal yesterday - with haredi public relations agent David Zilberschlag, who will run the Likud-Tsomet campaign among the haredi public. Last week, there were reports that Zilberschlag was negotiating to work for the same purpose for the Labor Party, Prime Minister Shimon Peres was apparently pressured by an aide to end contacts with Zilberschlag, who had reportedly

already prepared a campaign for

## Eitan attacks press

TSOMET head Rafael Eitan lashed out at reporters who came to yesterday's party faction meeting in Tel Aviv, before the agreement with the Likud was signed.

Eitan was reviewing the details of the agreement when be suddenly began attacking the press, accusing it of trying to foil the pact. Eitan attacked Yediot Aharonot correspondent Bina Barzel, whose paper's headline yesterday said that Tsomet had buckled to Likud pressure, Estap pold Barzel he "would take care of her."

-When Yerah Tal of Ha'aretz complained, Estan ordered all the reporters out. He later likened the reporters to "maligners who are like the dogs who bark at all they see. We will continue on our path till their barking ceases." Eitan afterwards apologized "if anyone's feelings were hurt." He thought the incident was minor: "Not exactly a cluster bomb, more like a cap gun."

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## Hammer easily reelected NRP leader

NATIONAL Religious Party head Zevulun Hammer was reclected to a second consecutive term last night, easily out-polling former prisoner of Zion Yosef Mendelevitch in central committee member balloting at Tel Aviv's Beit Hahaval

· Hammer took 78 percent of the vote, with Mendelevitch receiving 22 percent. Some 824 ballots were cast, accounting for about 90 percent of the party's central committee. .

The leadership of the party, including the Knesset members, let it be known that they think I should stand at the head of the party, and for that reason did not put forth their own candidacy," Hammer said before the results were made known late last night. "Even if he [Mendelevitch] gets a few votes, it is not because they think he should lead the party, but for s variety of other reasons."

Mendelevitch ran a campaign on the slogan: "Change, modernization, and internal democracy.

"We called 1,100 members of the central man Yitzhak Rath.

committee," Mendelevitch said, "and many people felt despair that there is no democracy in the party."

Mendelevitch is considered to be on the party's far right, while Hammer is considered one of the party's moderates.

Last night's elections were only for the parhead, who will also lead the NRP'a Knessetlist. The rest of the list will be selected by the central committee in elections scheduled for the end of March. Some 20 people are running for the Knesset, including Jerusalem city councilman Shmnel Meir, Gaza Coast Regional Council head Zvi Hendel, and Elkana Local Council head Nissan Slomianski.

This is the first time the party has picked its leader in elections separate from elections for the Knesset list. "We decided to pick our party head separately, because that is the way all the parties are doing it," said NRP spokesZevulun Orley, the party's political secre-tary, said other leading figures in the party did not challenge Hammer, because of the realization that Hammer has the best chance of uniting the party a different factions.

Rath said that none of the possible challengers, like Haman Point or Aviser Shaki, thoughtthey had a chance of heating Hammer, and so decided to "save their strength for the battle to get on the Knesses list."

One party official said that the ease with which Hammer has held unto the party's topposition is not an attempt to put forward a moderate face for the election following the Rabin assassination, "Hammer's election was assured before the assassination," the official

Yesterday's polling took place without out any speeches or public debates. The various Knesset hopefuls, however, took advantage of the fact that so many central committee members were present and actively canvassed for

### Amital charms American **Jewish** leaders

MARILYN HENRY

MINISTER without Portfolio Yehuda Amital charmed New York Jewish leaders yesterday, expressing sympathy for efforts to promote religious pluralism and then suggesting it is unlikely

Amital, the peripatetic rabbi with non-stop meetings in New York and Washington, was warmly received yesterday at events with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and with leaders of the Conservative

movement.

He was to participate last night in a so-called "unity forum" at a Manhattan Orthodox synagogue. He dismissed Orthodox rahbis who said his attendance at the forum would bestow recognition of the Reform and Conservative movements. "I am a rabbi, a rosh veshiva. Some rabbis send letters saying not to listen to me," Amital told the Presidents Conference. "I fear God, not the

In a talk sprinkled with references to his role as a teacher, he told the conference, "I don't believe that by coercion, religious legislation, we bring people closer to Torah."

He pleased a number of conference members with a strong grasp of the organization of American Jewish life and an implicit recognition of the different streams of Judaism. "Here there are no secular," he told the Americans. "They are not secular, they are religious in a different kind of way."

Hawever, he warned that American models of Jewish life could not be exported to Israel. Rather, he said, Israeli models would have to be developed.

#### Aloni rejects overtures Arab Movement for Change trying to form big Arab bloc to return to Meretz

Movement for Peace Sty movement, set to be declared a (PMP), which feiled to win a party next month, is also in contract sea in 1992, is all join ract with other groups in the is-

forces with the proposed new racif sector. Arab Movement for Change Party led by Ahmed Tibi to run in the upcoming elections, the PMP announced yesterday.

ed by Galilee resident Ahmed poet Mahmud Darweesh. Tibi, senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, described the move as "a very important step" in his efforts tn

A delegation from the Islamic Arab List, led by Sheikh A'atef Hatib, is due to meet with Thi in Taiba today. Hatib's list is unofficially affiliated with the Islamic Movement and Hatib has close ties with its spiritual head, Sheikh

uc Arab List also decides to join the proposed bloc, led by Tibi, it would be a major breakthrough in belping to win the support of tens of thousands of followers of the Islamie Movement

COMMUNICATION
Shulamit Aloni is constant yesterday left the door buffed her Citizens Rights Move- open for Aloni with an open-end-ment; which had asked her to ed proposal. We invite her to involve herself again in Meretz return to the party leadership and

ed more than two decades ago, is the largest Meretz component, and that to which her rival, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, Sarid convened the CRM exec-

The CRM, which Aloni found-

utive yesterday to continue delibcrations over what to do about Aloni. She did not attend the

A day earlier, she had rejected an idea from the CRM that she accept top billing on the Meretz slate, but that her role be confined to that of an elder stateswoman, with the real power in Sar-id'a hands; though he would be in the second slot.

Meretz is seeking ways to mollify Aloni, judging that even if she does not field a new ticket. her angry departure from the Meretz ticket would only harm the party's electoral prispects, which, according to the polls, are

to the the party's election campaign. She herself will have to choose the sort of activity and the

deems appropriate," he said. Bnt Alooi demonstratively stayed away from the executive: session, and dispatched a letter to each of the executive members, in which she maintained that she "had not taken the step I had with an eye to winning an honorary first slot on the party's Knesset list." She reiterated her re-

sphere of activity which she

A similar message was relayed to the Meretz executive, which convened shortly after the CRM meeting had excentive

solve not to return to Meretz

The Meretz executive yester-day echoed the CRM executive in appealing to Aloni to take part in the Meretz leadership and campaign. The executive elected Sarid to head its campaign.

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#### Floods close Arava road

DOZENS of cars were trapped on the Arava road yesterday, as floods caused its closure and cut Eilat off from the rest of the company.

- A police helicopter had to a car caught in a flooded Nahal Paran.

Some 50 people on jeep tours were also waiting for flood waters to recede. They were in eye contact with members of the Arava Civil Guard's rescue team, which was prevented from reaching them hy the swirling water. .

The Negev and Arava were buffeted by heavy sandstorms in the morning, then by rain, sometimes accompanied by hail, which began in the afternoon.

CORRECTION

Yesterday's story, "US hopeful Israel, Syria can reach water arrangement," erroncously named Syria as the builder of the Southeast Anatolia Development Project dams. The dams were built by Turkey.

CLARIFICATION MK Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) 🔆 is in Tunisia for a meeting of the Council of Europe with the PLO, and not as reported yesterday.

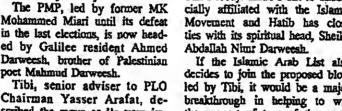
Winning numbers and cards In last night's Payia Hazak

drawing, the holder of ticket number 297223 wnn NIS 1,000,000. The holder of ticket number 589644 won a car.

Tickets numbered 864904, 860509, 587052, 167410, 676906, 489703, 359908 and 452369 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 85338, 90260, 12855, 35646, 51712, 22590, 42079, 24184, 25615, 15604, 46849, 99334, 37865, 49743, 99660 48176, 25859, 57248 and 40121 wnn NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 690, 885, 532, 621, and 931 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 07, 86, 40, 42 and 60 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 9 and 4 won

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance eard draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, ace of hearts, seveo of diamonds and nine of clubs.





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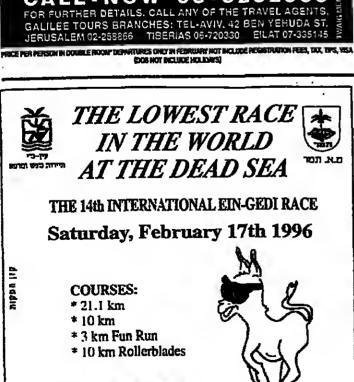
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## Kiryat Arba condemns residents trying to leave

LEAFLETS signed by the Kiryat Arha Local Couocil appeared yesterday in the settlement accusing residents whn organized to get compensation from the government to leave the settlement of stabbing the community in the

The leaflet, signed by the local council's political committee and placed in all the mail boxes, read: "The formation of a vocal interest and pressure group, well covered hy the press, at a time when the fate of the region will be decided represents a stah to the

The leaflet calls on those in the group "not to spit in the well from which they drink. All the residents of Kiryat Arba receive a great deal from the [Kiryat Arba] establishment, from the community, and from the spiritual and cultural aimosphere. Therefore. if they want to leave, they should do so in an honorable manner and continue to he grateful for the the good years they had HERB KEINON

The pulitical committee. made up of the members of Kiryat Arba's local council, as well as public figures such as Elyakim Ha'etzni. Noam Amon, and rahhis Eliezer Waldman and Moshe Levinger, wrote in the leafler that a high percentage of the group that wants to leave is made up of people who left the community years ago, and who are just looking for a way to make money.

'Lies,' respoods Sima Mizrahi, the organizer of the group. 'Of a list of well over 200 families, only four families left Kiryat Arba after the massacre at the Machpela Cave."

Mizrahi said that the leaflet shows that the couocil is concerned about a mass exodus from the community.

"The leaflet is proof that the local conocil is worried," she said. "If local council head Zvi

PA Police detains Israeli in Nablus

much ecergy in getting rid of the extremists in Kiryat Arba as he has in fighting us, then the community would look a lot different," she said.

Peace Now, meanwhile, sent a letter to Interior Minister Haim Ramon asking him to disband the local council and appoint a committee to run the city.

"It appears that during a year when the prime minister was killed, and two days before we commemorate the 13th anniversary of the murder of Emil Grunzweig, there is no need to explain the dangers in expressions like 'stab in the back,' " wrote Mossy Raz, Peace Now's political secretary and a candidate in the upcoming Meretz

Tsuri Popovitch, a spokesman for the Kiryat Arba council, dismissed the call to set up a committee as "ridiculous" and as just another attempt hy Peace Now to



Judge Gavriel Strasman, left, police Insp. Yaron London and lawyer Moshe Aloni confer in Sheba Hospital yesterday at the remand hearing of cabbie Herzl Noah, who is suspected of trying to murder his estranged wife.

## Man remanded for wife's attempted murder

PALESTINIAN police detained HERB KEINON an Israeli visiting a friend near Nahlus early yesterday morning. the third time in two weeks the Palestinian Police has arrested Israelis in the territories.

Haim Asayag, a resideot of Bracha in Samaria, weot to visit a Palestinian frieod aod busioess associate in Balata. On his way home at about midnight, he said, about 10 Palestinian policeman blocked his way and told him to follow them to their police

"They asked me for my identification card, and told me to follow them." said Asavag, 28, who was not armed, "When I told them that, according to the agreement, they had no authority to take me to the station, but

Homey atmosphere

must call the District Coordinating Office and wait for a joint Palestinian-Israeli patrol, they got angry and told me not to tell them about the agreement, that they know the agreement.

Asayag's friends went with him to the police station, but there the Palestiniaos split them up. Asavag said he was interrogated by three policeman, with two of them treating him well, while one - who was not in uniform - was

very harsh. 'He shouted at me that he knows the accord, and that I am not to dictate to him what to do," Asayag said. "I was terrified and

At one point, Asayag said, he

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'Israel killed **Egyptian POWs** for body parts'

THE "hot" story in the Egyptian press this week was that Egyptian prisoners of war held in POW camps in Israel were murdered and their body parts sold.

Writing in the popular daily Al-Ahram, Dr. Said Lavandi reports on a conversation with a Jewish merchant in Paris, who told him that that he had within his body a kidney that had been transplanted from the body of an Egyptian

According to Lavandi's account of what the merchant said, the camps were used as "a market for human body parts."

The report said that Israeli soldiers guardiog the caps used Egyptian POWs as "human targets, both to get rid of them and hecause they received a high price for their body parts." (Itim)

was sent into a hall where other Palestinians were waiting. "I felt their hatred, and was scared to death." he said

Asayag, who speaks Arabic, said that no one told him why he was detained, but that he heard plainclothes officers in the corridors say that they "want to show me how they have fell all these years, having been picked up, interrogated, and heateo hy Israelis.'

As Asayag was waiting in the hall, he saw a police officer he knew, who had him released. The police escorted him to a joint patrol, and from there he went to the DCO.

plaint with the Palestiniao Au-

appeals court.

TEL AVIV Magistrate's Court

Judge Gavriel Strasman went to

Noah, who is suspected of trying

to murder his estranged wife oo

Sunday. He was hospitalized

Tuesday after apparently trying

lice, denied all connection to the

crime. While police requested a

15-day remaod, Strasmao or-

According to police and eye-

witnesses. Noah entered the Ra-

mat Hasharoo leather goods

store last Sunday where his wife,

dered him held for eight days.

Noah, heavily guarded by po-

to commit suicide.

who narrowly lost, led the petitioo by 23 losing Ramallah candidates after the ceotral election commission dismissed his charges of fraud. In another case, the appeals court on

hoxes in which he suspected irregularities. However, many, like Barghouti, suspect the official tabulations are themselves tainted. Barghouti said he doubts he will win his

Had he woo a seat, Barghouti would have been the only representative running from a non-Fatah PLO faction to sit in the council. He lost narrowly to Fatah's most prominent candidate in Ramallah, his cousin Marwan Barghouti, Fatah's West Bank secretary-gen-

Barghouti told a press conference that the

RAINE MARCUS

Orly, worked, fired five shots, Sheha Hospital yesterday for the remand hearing of cabhie Herzl and then fled on foot.

Orly Noah was taken to the hospital suffering from head and chest wounds, and although she has now regained consciousness, she will lose an eye and will have to uodergo rehabilitation.

Noah was found slumped over the wheel of a rented car on Tuesday by a passerby. He had takeo a large amount of tranquilizers aod painkillers in an appareut suicide hid. The overdose damaged his liver, and doctors decided after pumping his stomach to

keep him in the hospital.

Bot defeose lawyers Moshe Aloni and Eli Cohen claimed that Noah was not involved in the shooting, and his disappearance after the attempted murder was because he was depressed after. hearing about it.

"Just as Orly's first husband and current boyfriend were released by police after questioning, Noah should also be released on bail," the lawyers said.

Aloni and Coheo regoested, alternatively, that Noah should be placed under house arrest or be remanded for fewer days. Inspector Yaron London said that police have evidence, apart from eyewitness statements, linking Noah to the shooting. The gun used in the shooting has still not been found.

Police found a bloodstain on Noah's shirt, but the lawyers argoed that their client vomited after taking the overdose of pills. The source of the blood stain is being investigated by police.

Givatayim resident Orly Noah 35, left her husband three months ago and filed several complaints to police that her husband had

### PA election fraud allegations reach appeals court

THREE weeks after the Palestinian elections, assertions of fraud hy candidates and Palestinian observers have now reached the election

Mustafa Barghouti, of the People's Party,

Wednesday permitted Mohammed Akasheh, a losing candidate in North Gaza, to look at the official vote tabulations from each of the

case, but "This is a test for the appeals court [four judges appointed by PLO Chairmao Yasser Arafat] and we are doing it to strengthen democracy ... We were hoping to see a real opposition emerge in this council, but it is evident it will have to act outside the council."

eral, for whom defeat would have been a significant humiliatioo.

ioternational observers "looked through

colonialist eyes and, seeing that there was no killing or violence, thought it was fair. This is the level of our democracy."

· Few claims of fraud have been actually proven hut suspicions of irregularities

One clear case of ballot-stuffing led to a revote in two Jabalya polling stations last week, and the result only compounded confusion. Imad Falouji, a recent Hamas convert to Fatah, who narrowly lost the first time to independent Khader Abu Nada, also lost in the revote, yet still took Abu Nada's seat.

According to Israel's Peace Watch observers, this indicated there had been a retabulatioo of votes from other ballot boxes; but why, how, and hy whom was unknown.

Akasheh, who also lost after the revote, insisted 400 votes were stolen from him. He petitioned the appeals court and was allowed to look at the offical vote counts from each

Ziv Hellman, Peace Watch's main observer, said the only way to judge fraud is to reopen the offical tabulations "and compare them with notes taken by observers."
In six out of 10 protocols that Peace Watch

had seen there were significant differences between them and unofficial counts. There 1697 polling stations.

Hellman said "there was no indication of a special direction" in the inconsistencies, and that he "has no evidence of fraud," but in the most suspicious case, in a Hebron ballot, the central election committee awarded 55 votes to a candidate whom all observers said had

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Meanwhile, a group of Palestinian observers, appointed by the Land and Water Establishment, has added Jericho to North Gaza, Hebron, and Ramallah as a haven of frand.

Jericho had one seat, which was won as expected by Sach Erckat, a favorine son, who chaired the commission which formulated the election system. Former US president Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalyn, who visited Jericho on election day, praised the sight of voters patiently waiting in line.

However, Saeb's uncle, Daoud Ercket, an aging member of the People's Party who returned almost blind from 26 years exile in 1993, charged fraud immediately after the re-

suits were published.
"Many police voted twice," Daoud Exchat said. "The police also offered money before the elections. All five losing candidates are appealing. In my case, because we have the same name, my votes were easily transferred to my nephew m the counting," something that might also have happened in the confrontation between Mustafa and Marwan Bargh-



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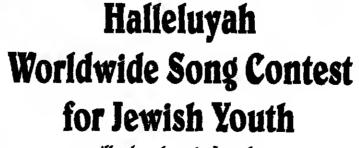
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### PA denies killing Jihad activists

outi, Erekat said.

JON IMMANUEL

THE Palestinian Authority yesterday upheld its original claim that two Islamic Jihad gunmeo were killed in a shootout last Friday in Gaza by their own explo-sives and by police bullets after they opened fire on police who chanced upon them. The police have come under

attack by Islamic radicals for carrying out a liquidation at the behest of Israel to prove they are tough oo terrorists, a claim the PA strongly denies. The family denies the official

report, but Jihad activists in the area have revealed one fact that the police have not: The two men were involved in the Beit Lid double-suicide bombing which killed 20 IDF soldiers and a civilian a year ago. They suspect police operated on information provided by Israeli security. authorities, which captured an operative in the Beit Lid attack and could have supplied the names of his accomplices.

PA Attorney-Geograf Khalid Qidrah said yesterday that an external examination of the bodies - all the families would allow confirmed the police version that "one died from an explosion and another by gunfire. It was chear that one died by an explosive device he held in his hand. The fragments are evident in the walls. Other weapons were seized," he

Eymad Ruzeineh, 25, father of three, and Amar Arraj, 27, were killed in a four-room apartment on the ground-floor of a house in a narrow alley of Shati refngee

Members of the two families who were present at the external autopsy said the men were shot by nine and 11 bullets apiece and never opened fire on police. Fifteen plainciothes police arrested the house owner and then tame back indicating they were looking for someone else, the families

#### ON SUNDAY - OUTLOOK DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST



DON'T MISS: American Outlook comments by Alan Dershowitz, Martin Peretz, Evans and Novak and other leading American columnists; and favorite comics: Peanuts, B.C., Felfler, Calvin-and Hobbes,

DON'T MISS IT

## attempt to conceal assassination foul-ups

BILL HUTMAN

TEL Aviv police chief Cmdr. Gabi Last and Asst-Cmdr. Ya'acoy Shoval appeared before the Shangar Commission yesterday. They strongly rejected allegations that an internal police report on the security arrangements the night of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination had been withheld from the commission in an attempt to cover up police failures.

This charge had been made by lawyers for several of the General Security Service agents being investigated by the commission, after the police submitted the report to the commission earlier

The report consists of the transcribed minutes of a meeting of police brass several days after the assassination, at which the security arrangements were reviewed, according to sources close to the

The lawyers also alleged that officers from the Tel Aviv and Yarkon Districts may have tried to coordinate their versions of events the night of the assassination, in hopes of putting blame for the security failures on the

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The GSS lawyers had based their allegations in part on dia-logue that was missing from the transcribed minutes of the police meeting. But the breaks turned out to have simply reflected the time when tapes were being changed, according to the

Shoval turned over the transcripts, hoping they would help in his defense against allegations he was partially responsible for the security failures the night of the assassination.

According to the sources, Last said he did not believe the commission needed the police findings. Shoval noted that it was he who brought the report to the commission, and if there was any thing in it to hide, he would not have done so.

The commission sharply criticized Last for not having turned over the police report sooner, the

sources said. Following Last and Shoval's hearings, former GSS head Karmi Gillon completed his testimooy, reiterating his position that he should not be held persocally accountable by the commission:

Gillon said that he was aware of the threat of an assassination. attempt by a Jewish extremist, and had taken steps to prevent it.

He said responsibility should be placed on those GSS officers directly responsible for VIP security, who had not taken action as he had instructed.

#### Mental patient raped and murdered

THE body of Sara Oron, 49, a patient at the Pardesiya Mental Hospital, was found in a citrus grove near Moshav Genlim in the Sharon yesterday afternoon. According to police, she had been raped and strangled.

Workers in the grove reported. finding the body. Police said that when they arrived, they found the body naked from the waist

Oron had been missing from the hospital since Tuesday. Police said she may have been picked up while hitchhiking, and it is possible that whoever picked her up raped and killed her.



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neck, chops, ribs, etc. To order, call: Ben Saks, Moshay Kfar Kisch 06-765958

# Police deny Supreme Court reduces Meshulam's sentence



Followers of Uzi Meshulam await the verdict of their appeal yesterday at the Supreme Court.

Police on alert for disturbances by disciples

RAINE MARCUS

Mesholam's wife, Elisheva,

which "just shows the distortion

Meshulam, who enjoys privi-

of the legal.system."

## Activists held for inciting against Shahal

SEVERAL supporters of Uzi Meshulam were detained for questioning by police Wednesday night in the Galilee after distributing leaflets m Safed denouncing Minister for Internal Security Moshe Shahal.

The spokesman for the Galilee police district said 25 men and women and around 60 children had traveled from Yehud to Safed, and had spent the day walking around the old quarter of the city.

supporters due to their dissatis- caused oumerous disturbances

faction with the small reduction since Meshulam's arrest in May

made in his eight-year sentence 1994. Moreover, police have long

yesterday. had information indicating that Internal Security Mioister, such a fringe group is capable of

shulain's supporters were arrest- said yesterday she was not sur-

ed for allegedly trying to break in prised at the court's decision.

ly emphasized that only fringe cl- leged conditions in Ramle's Aya-

ements are responsible for of- lon Prison, will soon be entitled

feoses, his supporters have to receive furloughs, after having

Cantorial Concert - In the Hassidic Admors' Courts

Moshe Shahal has been targeted harming MKs and VIPs.

POLICE are on alert for possible

disnubances by Uzi Meshulam's

by the group, and several of Me-

to his Haifa home and for hang-

Although police have constant-

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ing him in effigy.

DAVID RUDGE

Later they made their way to the grave of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yochai oo Mount Meron. The spokesman said that during their visit they distributed hand-writteo leaflets, which according to police sources contained inflammatory comments denouncing Shahal and the

The group of Meshulam followers was de-

served a quarter of his sentence.

Furloughs are approved by the

Prisons Service depending on rec-

ommendations by police. Consid-

ering his past record in prison, a

police source said police may ob-

"However if we get reports

that Meshulam and his support-

ers are well-behaved, and are not

disturbing the peace, there is no

reason for us to object to his fur-

loughs," said a senior police offi-

cer. "If they are quiet and well

behaved, he will be allowed out

on furloughs just like any other

prisoner. If there are distur-

bances, then we will object. We

must wait and see and take each

ject to furloughs.

case on its merit."

tained and taken to the Karmiel police station, where 19 of the adults were questioned. Criminal files were opened against some of them.

During the course of the inquiries, the youngsters waited outside the police station chanting slogans condemning Shahal and the

The Galilee District spokesman said all of those detained for questioning were later

## Counselor

AN Uzi Meshulam follower, aryouths in a march in which they ehanted slogans against Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal,

Noam Akbes, a counselor for a Meshulam youth group, was indicted after Channel 1 showed footage of him last month leading the youths in the chant, "Shahal your time is up." They also hanged Shahal in effigy.

#### remanded until trial's end

rested for leading a group of was remanded until the end of Court yesterday.

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trial by Petah Tikva Magistrate's month in the spring of 1994. The

Jerusalem

## Followers demand complete acquittal

**EVELYN GORDON** 

THE Supreme Court koocked 1½ years off Uzi Meshulam's eight-year prison sentence vesterday, but his followers said that nothing less than a complete acquittal will satisfy them.

"The state is a criminal," said Meshulam's wife. Elisheva, after the verdict was announced, "If there is a real trial rather than a rigged one, he will he fouod inpocent.'

Meshulam "and his students are sitting in jail to put a lid on the affair," added Rabbi Yitzhak Lahainy, regarding the Yemenite children who allegedly disappeared during the early years of the state. Lahainy, along with other Meshulam followers, was handing out prepared statements comparing the trial to the Drevfuss Affair. "Any verdict that isn't a complete acquittal is a lie," he said.

Lahamy charged that the government, the courts and the press are conspiring to paint the group as dangerous fanatics, saying, for instance, that it had been investigated for incitement for reprinting a caricature of Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal, which bothered no one when it first appeared in Ma'ariv. He denied that the group planned any injury to Shahal.

The reading of the verdiet passed without incident, possibly due to heavy police presence. The defendants themselves seemed relaxed and happy, smiling and waving at friends in the public benches, and bursting into loud song as they were led out after hearing the verdict. Mesholam himself was not present.

The Tel Aviv District Court convicted Meshulam and 11 followers a year ago of criminal conspiracy, interfering with a policemao in the line of duty, attempted aggravated assault, extortion, endangeriog human life on the roads, and illegal weapons possession and manufacture.

The offenses were committed when the group barricaded itself in Meshulam's Yehud residence, in defiance of the police, for a shulam personally was also convicted of attacking policemen, ordering one of his followers to

throw a firebomb at a policeman, firing at an old-age home, and obstructing instice. Meshulam was sentenced to eight years, while the others received sentences ranging from 15 months to five years.

In its appeal, the group argued that it did not get a fair trial, because they were not presem for most of it, and the cross-examination was conducted by Judge Amnon Strashnov rather than their

However, Justices Aharon Barak, Shlomo Levine, and Dalia Dorner unanimously rejected this claim, pointing out that this was entirely the group's own fault: it was the defendants who refused to come to the trial, though Strashnov pleaded with them to do so; and it was they who first fired their lawyers, and then, when Strashnov refused to release the attorneys, ordered the lawyers not to say anything in

The justices also unanimously rejected the argument that the group was acting in self-defense, or that the facts of the case had not been sufficiently proved.

However, Barak and Dorner, with Levine dissenting, acquitted both Meshulam and his "righthand man," Avner Uzan, of one of the actions for which they had been convicted of attempted assault; a series of shots fired at a police helicopter, which took place after the two had already been taken into custody.

The partial acquittal was due to a change in the law which was passed six months after Strashnov's verdict. Under the old law, any member of a conspiracy could be held responsible for any act committed as part of the conspiracy, even if he personally did

oot commit that act. Uoder the oew law, however, someone can only be found guilty of acts in which he actually participated in some way. The majority justices ruled that since Meshulam and Uzan were not present then, they could not have planned or incited the shots at the helicopter.

The justices also unanimously charge of obstructing justice.

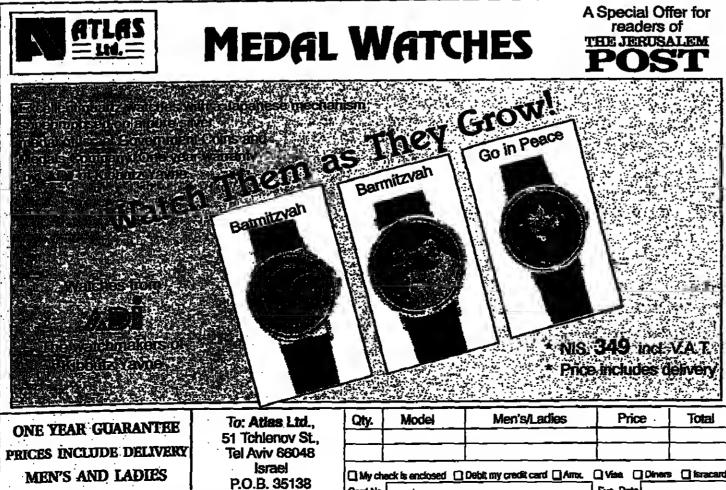
The court let the sentences of the other 10 stand.

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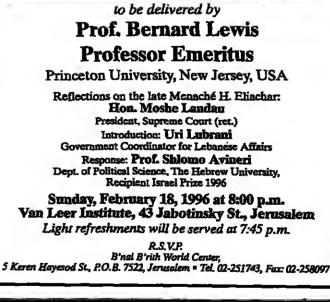
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### Prosperity as peace bait

FTER years of fruitless negotiations with Damascus, Israel and the US seem to have concluded that money may succeed where reason bas failed. Appeals to Syria's understanding for Israel's security concerns have proved a futile exercise. And demands for the kind of normalization which would signal a true transformation have met a Syrian stone wall. What remains is the enticement of pros-

Undeniably, making peace with Israel is fi-nancially rewarding. Egypt has been receiving \$2.2 billion annually in economic and military assistance from the US ever since it signed the peace treaty with Israel. Jordan, deprived of US assistance for siding with Iraq during the Gulf War, was forgiven by Washington once it made peace with Israel and had its \$700 million debt to the US canceled. The PLO, although reportedly worth anywhere between \$10b. and \$15b., has been receiving sizable contributions from donor nations. The US bas already granted the organization \$160 million, with another \$340m. due in the next four years. Other countries have given or pledged sums amounting to more than \$1.5b.

Nor is Syria in a position to refuse the kind of offer the US is apparently prepared to make. II is a poor country whose oil reserves are running out. That it cannot pay Russia the \$1b. it owes for weapons is symptomatic of its problems. And that it squandered on arms the \$2b. it received from the Saudis as a reward for symbolically joining the coalition against Iraq (though its troops never fired a shot in the war) is indicative of its priorities. To visit Syria is to experience the Third World.

True, if Syria agrees to the Israeli-American proposals it may have to relinquish the \$4b. it earns annually from the drugs it grows in Lebanon, and it may lose the financial support it gets from Iran. But this would all be easily offset by Western investments and aid.

As the US and Israel see it, a Syrian-Israeli peace treaty would transform Syria from a backwaler to a Ihriving, dynamic, modern economy. With the Golan thrown into the bargain, and with Israel apparently agreeing to the continued Syrian occupation of Lebanon, it is difficult to see why Syria does not grab the proposed

Yel dictator Hafez Assad's is apparently reluctant to agree to true normalization. He seems to fear the effects on his dictatorship of opening Syria to large-scale tourism and the extensive e of Western companies. Westernization and the democratic notions it inevitably brings are the natural enemies of dictatorial regimes. the Alawite minority, is especially vulnerable. Nor is everyone in the Israeli government sanguine about the withdrawal from the Golan. Injecting a note of sobriety into the negotiations, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak has insisted that Israel must control the vital water sources of the Jordan river and the Kinneret. To control these sources, Israel must stay on the Golan.

To alleviate one of Israel's main concerns, Secretary of State Warren Christopber has been discussing "water arrangements among us, the Syrians, and the Turks," as a Peres aide has put it. But Ankara's experience with the Syrians bas not been encouraging. Unlike the Israeli government, the Turks have no illusions about Assad's reliability. All the agreements they have reached with him on curbing terrorist

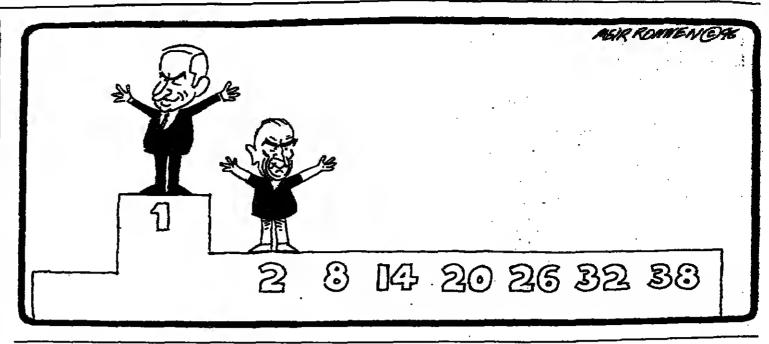
activity by the Kurdish PKK have been ignored. The Turks are also unhappy about the prospect of a Syrian-Israeli arrangement, which would enable the Syrians to concentrate their army on the Turkish border. Nor does Turkey seem ready to help resolve the water problem. Its own growing needs, say Turkish officials, make the prospect of a water surplus slim.

An "economic solution" to the Arab-Israeli conflict has been advocated by Peres for more than 30 years. In the 1980s he talked of a Marshall Plan for the region, something that will replace war-making with prosperity and change the Middle East the way posl-World War II American aid transformed Europe.

But there are numerous differences between the European countries and the regimes in Israel's neighborhood. Not the least of these was pointed out by the army's deputy chief of intelligence, Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, last week. Disputing Peres's optimistic assessments, he asserted that, unlike the Arab-Israel relationship, Western Europe consists of people of similar cultural and religious backgrounds.

But the most dramatic difference is in the systems of government. In Europe the first condition for the Marshall Plan's success was that all recipients of American aid, whether allies or former enemies, had to be democracies. II was unthinkable that a Communist, Fascist, or any other form of dictatorship would be included in the plan.

Assad's Syria is still one of the most ruthless dictatorships in the world. No change has been discernible in the beliefs, conduct, or aims of its leadership. It may desperately need Western help at this point and agree to establish diplomatic relations with Israel Io receive it. But to suppose that it has changed its character, and to relinquish a vital strategic asset like the Golan to appease such a dictatorship, is to replay this And Assad's rule, which relies on the support of century's most fateful blunders.



## A hand that takes, and gives

NE wonders how much thought and study of the facts preceded the recent spate of irresponsible and misleading statements attributed to individuals like author A.B. Yehoshua and Minister Yossi Bei-

In the event that press reports of their message were accurate, their "candor" vis-à-vis Diaspora Jewry is an affront, pure ann sim-

Hundreds of Israeli institutions depend for their very survival on a constant flow of funds from world Jewry. We are talking about major institutions that continue to make their impact on our life here in every sphere, in some cases contributing to the advancement of mankind.

If world Jewry's benevolence were to dry np now or in the foresceable future, the consequences would be disastrous.

Imagine 385,000 dedicated Hadassah women in North America and their growing worldwide network of supporters calling their activities on behalf of Israel to a halt. The Hadassah hospitals at Ein Kerem and on Mt. Scopus would be brought to their knees. Hadassah College, which educates some 800 students annually, would soon be forced to shut down.

This is true of most of Israel's bospitals and health institutions. and of all universities and institutions of higher learning, schools. day care centers, museums, and sports facilities. And our forests, parks, and recreational facilities

TNTERIOR Minister Haim

YITZHAK ROGOW

are as dependent as ever upon generous Jewisb philanthropy. The Israel Museum is just one of many major cultural institutions that battle annually for every meager agora from government and municipal sources. If the flow of Diaspora funds dried

Jewish charity doesn't end with the desire to donate to Israel or solely Jewish local institutions. Wealthy Jews are major contributors to regional and local causes, giving sums that proportionately exceed those of their non-Jewish

#### Charity to Israel: an umbilical cord with a two-way source of nourishment

up, the museum would have to close its doors instantly. Israelis' quality of life and services - including, I daresay, those of Messrs. Yehoshua and Beilin would suffer as a result.

Jews may no longer be persecuted, but the price of freedom is increasing assimilation and intermarriage. What A.B. Yebosbua doesn't seem to appreciate is that the very act of Jewish giving to Israel can potentially counteract

With more and more Jewisb philanthropy earmarked for specific objectives in Israel, givers are materially and spiritually tied to the institutions they benefit. It is an umbilical cord with a twoway source of nourishment.

Through their donations, Diaspora Jews relate in a concrete way to the Jewish state, strengthening their Jewishness, and, often, their children's and grandchildren's.

Walk into the foyer of any major cultural, educational, or bealth institution anywhere in the world that has a significant lewisb presence. The number of plaques honoring Jewish benefactors is staggering.

And if the quality of giving is "in the genes" of Diaspora Jews, why sbouldn't Israel or Israeli institutions benefit?

The old maxim that Israel is a poor country with rich citizens becomes truer every day. Yet appearances are often deceptive. This is still far from a rich or selfsufficient country.

Can we do without the \$3 billion that the US government gives us on a yearly basis? Does the American Jewish presence, not to mention AIPAC, have no effect on this generosity? Should we throw it back in their faces?

Would the US Congress be so pro-Israel were it not for the need to foster lewish voting support? And will American Jews be as their many efforts on our behalf?

The newly wealthy do not easily part with their money. The tradition of giving is fostered over generations, and usually comes easier with old and established wealth. Thus, on the whole, rich Israelis aren't yet philanthropic Israelis. The few who do give significant sums are invariably those who made aliya and have been affluent for many years.

Messrs. Beilin and Yehoshua do have a point. Very often, Diaspora Jews feel that their contributions entitle them to express vociferous political opinions, or to criticize Israel's policies. To Israelis who resent this, the views of Beilin and Yehoshua are sweet

But a complete reversal of Isracl-Diaspora relations is anjustified. Let us not take one point and weave a whole philosophy out of it. What we need is to turn our outstretched hand into one that also gives.

The interdependence of Jews is as valid today as it was 50 years ago, maybe more valid. The vast difference is that today the Jewish state can give more back. It can begin to repay its debt to world Jewry in a multitude of ways, by helping the Diaspora remain Jewish, and by enconiaging

It is time to do that, tather than widen the chasm,

The writer is deputy directorgeneral for development and international relations at the Israel

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### THE PALESTINIAN COVENANT

Sir, - Your correspondent Jon Immanuel continually refers to the Palestinian National Covenant as baving been adopted in 1968. The fact is that the covenant was adopted in 1964 - three years before the Six Day War - and was amended in a

relatively minor way in 1968. With the growing attention in the media to this subject as the date (April 12?) approaches on which Israel expects this document to be radically revised, the date of its adoption assumes increasing importance. The importance of the date stems from the fact that the PLO's founding charter was first published, with all of its radical anti-Israel provisions already in place, three years before Israel came into possession of the so-called "occupied territories." In other words, the Israel the PLO wanted to see destroyed was Green-Line Israel - without the

May I suggest therefore that, in future references to the Palestinian National Covenant, its correct date of birth - 1964 - should be used. MOSHE AUMANN Jerusalem.

#### PRECEDENT

Sir. - Your issue of January 5 reported that Minister of Justice David Liba'i canceled a meeting with the PLO's Freih Abu Medein because the latter "compared Israeli payment to the Arabs injured in the intifada with German reparations to Holocaust victims." Liba'i characterized this as "boorishness and wickedness."

Abu Medein's stand is a natural follow-up to remarks made some months ago in Germany, when re-porters were told that "the entire Palestinian people have suffered just like the suffering of Jews in the Holocaust... [Germany should] assist in reparations to the Palestinian people for the suffering they have endured under Israeli occupation.

It was not Abu Medein or one of his colleagues who was speaking. It was Yael Dayan, David Liba'i's own colleague in the Labor Party and the Knesset. P.J. BERLYN

Sir, - If Gabi Sbeffer's article, "Strange mistrust of Arabs" (January 24) is indicative of the current government's position, then it is clear that they bave based their policies on vacuous assumptions and wishful thinking. Professor Sbeffer distorts history when be misrepre-sents the position of those who rightly claimed thal King Hussein of Jordan would not sign an Israeli-Jordanian accord prior to an Israeli-Palestinian accord, and those wbo raised legitimate questions in regard to Sadat's intentions. However, his subsequent comments, as well as his apparent obsession with straw men, make it clear that he is living in his own land of Oz.

Astonndingly, Professor Sheffer writes that Israelis live in a constant and inexplicable state of mistrust and anxiety about the Arabs. Israeli mistrust and anxiety about the Arabs is not inexplicable. It can be explained by the terrorist attacks in Tel Aviv, Beit Lid, Ramat Gan and Jerusalem. It can be explained by bearing Arafat describe the "peace" process in terms of "jihad" and "liberation." It can be explained by watching 250,000 Gazans mourn the death of the terrorist Ayyash and listening to Arafai confer martyr sta-

tus on terrorists. Professor Sheffer astutely points out that democracy cannot develop in societies that are traditional or ruled by local despots, and that only the removal of such impediments can pave the way to democracy. Consequently, one can either conclude that Professor Sbeffer believes Arafat to be a Jeffersonian democrat, or is advocating bis removal.

Just as Dorothy, in the movie The Wizard of Oz, placed ber salvation on the wizard, so too does Professor Sheffer rely on the permeation of Western culture and technology into Arab society to pave the way of democracy. However, be ignores the fact that traditional opposition, such as Islamic fundamentalism, has risen concomitantly with Western permeation. I would caution Professor Sheffer, and the current government, to keep the champagne on ice until this struggle runs its course. Despite their fantasies, this is not the land of Oz. and neither Professor Sbeffer, nor Prime Minister Peres, can just close their eyes, click their beels three times, and be transported

Beit Yitzhak.

#### RELATIONS WITH THE CHURCH

Sir, - If the outrage expressed by my Christian friends here is anything to go by, it wasn't Oleg's cartoon or the Post's publication of it which offended their sensitivities, but the fact that Arafat turned Christmas celebrations in Bethlebem into a political circus and pro-

nounced Jesus a "Palestinian." Msgr. Dr. Mathes's censure "Church offended." Letters, January 30) should therefore have been directed, at least in part, at the PA leader, demanding his apology for such a blatant attempt to rewrite history. It would no doubt bave helped to improve the Vaucan's image in the eyes of non-Catholic Christians and also of the Israeli

public. Casting doubts on Israel's good-will in its relations with the Christian world (of which the Catholic to a "new" Middle East. SHAWN PINE

Church is part) merely attests to

Msgr. Mathes's seeming inability to learn the lesson of the intifada, i.e. that the continued existence of Christianity in the Middle East is under threat of Islam, not from the

R. WILLERS Wembley Park, Middx.

#### PROPAGANDA COUP

Sir, - What a hrilliant propaganda coup by Yasser Arafat banded to him by Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer when be agreed to be photographed in front of a huge picture of the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount It is as if he said "Yes, Jerusalem is yours."

YEKUTTEL BARETTI

Ramon made an outlandisb stalement when he addressed six reform rahbis from North America recently. He claimed that prior to the Lebanon War, Lahor had had the chance of forming a coalition with the haredi parties on the basis of a change in the Law of Return that would satisfy Israel's ultra-Orthodox community. Had that been the case. Labor wouln have been in power instead of the Likud, and 650 Israelis wouldn't have lost their lives in that war.

Taking this line of reasoning to its absurd extreme, Ramon was blaming the deaths of young Israeli soldiers on the Reform

One might jog Mr. Ramon's memory a bit. Labor, consulted by the Likud prior to the invasion into Lebanon, stood behind the Likud government's adventure. It was only when protests within Labor's political ranks and among the general populace broke out that the Labor leadership began to question the war. Ji took Sabra and Sbatilla truly to wake up the Labor Party, and by then most of our soldiers had already died.

Ramon failed miserably to make a crucial point that he should bave underscored: The principle of religious pluralism cannot be the sole preoccupation of any particular community.

We are living in an altered Israel, a post-Rabin-assassination Israel. Our non-Orthodox rabbinic colleagues abroad, like those of us in Israel, left the stage open for the extreme right-wing leadership, creating the image in the eyes of most Americans that the Jewisb community there opposed Rabin's peace overtures.

This "peace passivity" was reinforced by a Diaspora "religious activism' that produced such parochial statements as "If Labor included Shas in its coalition, support for the peace process among liberal Jews might be

Overall support for Israel among Jews and non-Jews alike may very well be jeopardized when, in pursuit of its religious goals, non-Orthodox Jews bere

#### DAVID FORMAN

The impression of 'peace passivity'

present Israel one-dimensionally, as an undemocratic country where Conservative and Reform Jews are the most besieged minority. (I have yet to be carted off in the middle of the night and placed under administrative detention because I am a Reform

What happened? After Sneh's opening remarks, we rabbis launched into a bitter attack on Labor's stand regarding religious pluralism, leaving Sneh with the clear impression that if Labor didn't bend to our demands, he could not expect us to send messages supporting the peace pro-

#### Religious pluralism cannot go on being the sole preoccupation of Conservative and Reform Jews

Cranking up support for one's cause by employing extreme characterizations can ultimately only hurt Israel; it will most certainly burt the peace front.

A WEEK after the Rabin assassination, a group of Progressive rabbis met with Health Minister Efraim Sneh. The meeting was intended to brief us on the peace process, so that we might in turn brief our colleagues abroad. The bope was that we might garner support among Diaspora rabbinic leadership for the government's efforts to implement Oslo 2, support that was previously not

cess to rabbinic friends in the US. We Israeli liberal rabbis are, ironically, guilty of the same offense we attribute to our Orthodox connterparta - religions blackmail. And our blackmail has an empty ring to it, when you compare the strength of non-Ortbodox religious movements in Israel to the strength of the Orthodox communities.

But the issue isn't realpolitik. It's ideology. And we are witnessing a sacrifice of basic liberal religious principles.

Those in the Reform world bold to a universal Interpretation of Judaism; yet when it comes to religious rights in Israel, we play

the most parochial game in town. It is as if the notion of kial Yisruel, the brotherhood of lews, played no role in a liberal religious understanding of Judaism. 251.00

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One would have hoped that at least in the brief meeting with Such, coming on the heels of Rabin's murder, we liberal rabbis might have shelved our own nar-TOW CONCERNS.

When the average secular Israeli hears us parroting the lairguage of the Orthodox world as it relates to the political sphere, he or she is justified in retorting "A plague on both your houses."

Of course non-Orthodox religious Jews should continue pressing for their legitimate rights. The court action and successes that have been achieved by the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center are to be landed. Change in the relationship between religion and state will ultimately be recorded by legal. adjudication.

But liberal religious Jews should not separate out what ought, according to their ideological worldview, be a parallel commitment to peace.

One-dimensionalism is contradictory to a liberal religious

The writer is spokesperson of Rabbis for Human Rights.

#### **POSTSCRIPTS**

CANCER CAUSED by particles thrown out by dying stars may have killed off dinosaurs 65 million years ago, an American scientist said.

Juan Collar of the University of South Carolina believes that sub-atomic particles called neutrinos released from stars collapsing in earth's galaxy may have produced a cancer pandemic among dinosaurs.

Neutrinos cotliding with the nuclei of living atoms could damage DNA, nature's genetic huilding hlocks, producing cancercausing mutations.

THREE MEN were arrested and charged with one of the more un-

usual crimes we'll hear about this year: they were going to invade Cuba.

The CIA removed more than two truckloads of weapons and equipment, including assault rifles, body armor, and radio equipment from a Los Angeles business.

Federal agents also learned of the purchase by the alleged conspirators of a shrimp boat that can carry up to 30 people from the US to Cuba.

Rene Cruz Sr., 68, the owner of the business, his son, Rene Cruz Jr., 47, and Rafael Garcia, 45, were arrested. They belong to a paramilitary group opposed to the rule of Cuban president Fidel Castro. The men, who are Cuban-born but live in the Los Angeles area, were charged with conspiracy and expedition against friendly nations.

Agents found plans that said the invaders would leave from. the US, capture additional weapons after landing in Coba and provoke an armed uprising in. three Cuban cities: Artemisa, Consolation and San Juan Y Martinz

Two satellite units also were found in the warebouse, along with scuba gear, a videotape of the Cuban shoreline, four rubberrafts with motors and a Coben

The group planned to depend on Cuban exiles in the US for manpower and financial backing



SRAEL lacks n truly independent television authority. A Channels 1 and 2 are both state-sponsored, to a greater or lesser degree; both have responsittle ministers, Shulamit Alont and Shimon Peres, respectively; both have so-called public councils, which in reality represent political parties.

The situation is one in which the sacrosanct principle of the public's right to know is tenuous at best

We were thus concerned over the news that the Knesset is slated to ratify a coalition-proposed law enabling the Israel Broadcasting Authority to influence the upcoming election campaign by effectively controlling the public's right to know. And media reports that election broadcasts will be limited to Channel 1 - the more biased channel - only point

to a worsening of the situation. Paragraph 5(A) (2) of the Elections Law - Method of Electioncering, prohibits displaying the image of a candidate for the Knesset on television for a period of 30 days prior to elections.

Calling the present law "archaic," the heads of the IBA and the Second TV Channel Anthority are lobbying strongly for passage of this radical change. They claim that candidates will be seen daily on cable TV anyway, so why shouldn't their channels get in on

the act?
We believe that the proposed changes are actually a concerted government effort to exploit the supposedly independent broadcasting anthorities to infinence the elections, thereby assuring the election of Shimon Peres as prime minister, and the continued supremacy of the Labor-Meretz coalition.

DURING the past year, Israel's

#### ELI POLLAK YISRAEL MEDAD

Media Watch has reported numerous violations by the electronic media of the law regarding fairness, balance, and variety, as well as the code of ethics.

Imbalance on TV's Popolitica program as regards guests, format, and time allocation has been reported. The program's notoriety gained national attention following a report in Yediot Aharonot on November 9 that the editor of the program had stated

The government is using the media to meddle in democracy

his view that the program was "leftist" and would remain so.

The editor subsequently wrote to the IBA apologizing for his outburst, though not for his stand. The Broadcasting Authority's lack of willingness to publicize this letter only exemplifies its insensitivity to public criticism.

The police are completing an investigation of the IBA over charges that the swearing-in ceremony of the infamons Eyal group, headed by alleged General Security Service agent Avishai Raviv, was staged.

This week, Israel's Media Watch published a report detailing the pronounced bias in favor of the government on Israel Radio's talk/interview show hosted by Dalia Yairi.

Another report focused on the week following the Rabin assassi-

nation as reflected on Channel, 1. The report noted the inflammatory statements approved for broadcasting which accused leading opposition politicians of direct responsibility for the murder. There was no attempt to balance such statements.

IT IS our considered opinion that Israelis cannot depend on the IBA for fair and impartial coverage in the most comprehensive sense of the term, especially at a time of national soul-searching and debate, which is what elec-

The current law, perhaps awkward for the cameraman, is wise. As long as the electronic media depend on the government, it is unnatural to expect them to treat the opposition fairly.

The present law forbids appearances of candidates ourside the electioneering commercials prepared by the parties themselves. This arrangement truly assures all candidates a fair shake, with equal time allotted according to the law.

If the government were truly interested in fair and accurate reporting, it would privatize the IBA, reducing the dependency of the media on the government and constituting a great step forward in assuring the public's right to

Whatever the results of the elections, Israelis should be left with the feeling that the campaign was fair, free, and unbi-

Allowing the electronic media to meddle in the elections can only damage democracy. It will do very little to heal the wounds in our society.

The writers are, respectively, chairman and executive director of Israel's Media Watch.

## Party politics, with belly dancing as we exchanged names - yes,

# Questions of principle

HE first breakthrough in Israel's relations with the Arab world came 17 years ago, when the peace treaty with Egypt was concluded under the

12 Y.

At the time, the Likud also proposed autonomy for the Palestinians. The Palestinian population would be given the opporremity to run their own lives with virtually no Israeli interference.

Despite its many limitations, this autonomy program - whose main points were incorporated in the Camp David accords - was far superior to the Oslo agreements, which bode a Palestinian state

with a large army.

The Likud plan posited that neither a Palestinian state nor any foreign sovereignty would be established west of the Jordan River. The responsibility for security, especially in the fight against terror, would be Israel's.

Jewish settlement in all parts of the Land of Israel would continue and increase. And Jerusalem, the eternal capital of the Jewish people and the State of Israel, would be undivided. Except for the right to religious worship, no foreign element would have any standing in the capital.

But since then facts have been established on the ground. Gaza and Jericho, and subsequently six more cities in Judea and Samaria, have been handed over to the Palestinians. The city of Hebron, except for its Jewish Quarter, is to be transferred next month. And the Palestinians have been given administrative powers in additional territories.

Despite all this, we must not accept the iniquitous and dangerous Oslo agreements. Their acceptance by the Likud, which some are now demanding, will deny us the ability to oppose their continued implementation.

Facts created on the ground cannot be ignored. But when a national government assumes power after the coming elections, it must effect changes. Chiefly, Palestinian violations have to be reversed, full Israeli sovereignty

#### ARIEL SHARON

in the eastern part of Jerusalem must be restored, and Palestinian "security forces," which now exercise authority in the city, must be removed:

IF THE Liked accepts the Oslo

- Will a Likud government allow the return of a million Palestinian refugees, as Arafat demands? It would be a clear recipe for national suicide. Will a Likud government hand over additional territory to the Palestinian Authority without establishing full Israeli responsibility for security, as the Oslo agreement requires?

Will a Likud government prevent the IDF from freely moving in the antonomy zones and con-

If the Likud accepts the Oslo pact, it no longer has a right to exist

fine the army to bases in areas under Palestinian control? These are provisions in the Oslo agreement. Will a Liked government continue to destroy Israeli agriculture, as the present government has started doing, and permit free imports of Arab farm

produce? Can we allow Palestinians to control the subterranean water resources which supply both the coastal area and Judea and Samaria? For us, this is a question of life or death. In Gaza the Palestinians have dug hundreds of wells, and by over-pumping them have caused salinity in Western Negev wells.

IN THE areas not yet handed over to the Palestinians, constituting the majority of the territories, the Likud will be able to apply its program. Areas essential to Israel's secu-

rity, including the mountain ridge, the settlements, the main arteries linking the coastal area to the Jordan River, and the area around Jerusalem with its satellite towns, will not be included in the Palestinian autonomy zones. In other sections, where Palestinian autonomy prevails, the responsibility for security will be

Obviously, if tranquillity and security prevail, it will be in Israel's interest to reduce the military presence in the antonomy areas at its own initiative. The right of our security forces to move freely will be permanent, but the extent of our activity will be determined by the degree of security on the ground.

Full security means that a Jewish child or woman or any Israeli citizen will be able to go anywhere unmolested, the way Palestinian women and children move freely in Israeli cities.

We do not wish to return to Gaza and Jenin, or the other towns now under full Palestinian control. The Likud program never envisioned our staying in these places. But if terrorism does not end, a national government will restore Israel's right to take preemptive action and its right of hor

Above all, a Likud government will prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, now heing created by the government be-

fore our very eyes. If the Likud believes ir is right, it cannot allow its ideology to be determined by opinion polls. It must adhere to its ideological path, and persuade the public that only the Likud can bring the country peace and security.

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former defense minister.

held a party two weeks ago at my home in Efrat. There was singing and dancing and eating. There wasn't much talking: Half the guests didn't speak the same language as the other half. But in the end, it didn't real-

Half of my guests were Palestinian Arab women from the Moslem village of Sheikh Abdullah Ibrahim. Having sipped numerous cups of conte homes and danced with them at several weddings in their village, I decided it was time to return their hospitality.

The other half were Jewish women from Efrat, whose curiosity and innate friendliness had won out over their misgivings.

It was an unusual mixture of people. But chocolate chip cookics, an upturned hucket filling in for a drum, and an opera singer (my sister, an American visitor) helped break the ice.

Some people found my hosting such a party puzzling. After all, I go to all the right-wing demonstrations, wearing my green hat; and I've been arrested.

Even our mayor, whom I plan to invite to my house to meet some of the village elders for the first time, was confused when I showed up at a vigil held on the day of the Palestinian elections to prevent PA candidates from going through Efrat on their way to Wadi Niss. ..

"Are you for or against?" be asked. "You'll have them in your home, but you won't let them come into your town?"

lt's hard to explain that my opposition to the "peace" process and the Palestinian Authority doesn't extend to individuals. Sometimes 1 feel 1 am the only one struggling with this conflict. I have yet to hear a right-wing-

er say, "There are good, decent

#### SUE TEDMON

the people you hate and fear so much

Arabs out there. Lumping them together with terrorists is a moral problem." And I have yet to hear a left-winger say, "There are Arabs who try to kill any Jews they can. This makes trusting Arabs a

problem." Let's face it. As a group, Arabs have a lousy track record. With very few, notorious, exceptions, the violence between Arabs and Jews has been one-sided.

I understand those who say Ar-

together socially?" I stoutly denied it. It was simply a party, 1 said, a way to introduce one set of friends to another, to make music and have fun. Politics had nothing to do with it.

Or maybe it did. Maybe I protested too much. There is a part of me that wants to shake my Jewish neighbors up a it, to tell them, "Look - these are the people you hate and fear so much!"

I don't want it to be so easy for

## I wanted to shake my Jewish friends up a bit, to tell them, Look! These are

trustworthy, that they don't deserve another chance, that any benefits from contact with them are outweighed by the risks, that it would be nice to just be rid of them, once and for all.

But how much poorer my life would be without the friendship of people like Yousef and Sahar! How limited my world would seem if it didn't include evenings like the one I spent at Suad's house recently, when we all sat, their children with mine, waiting for the Ramadan fast to end.

I watched Rami, a keffiyahwrapped teenager, nuzzle my haby, and felt I was part of a world in which kefiyyahs were dangled above bahies' curious fingers, and the cry "Allahu akbar!" meant that finally everyone

WHEN MY Jewish neighbors asked, "Is this a political crusade of yours, getting Jews and Arabs

abs have proven themselves un- them to reject all Arabs en masse, as we right-wingers reject the Palestinian Authority and all it stands for. I want them to face the conflict, the moral problem of judging individuals according to what others do. Most of all, I want them to glimpse the world

> too, that wants to show my Arab friends Jewish hospitality, to welcome them into my world as they've welcomed me, again and again, into theirs.

what this world includes. They've seen me hiking through the wadi back and forth to Givat Hadagan; they've seen my assortment of right-wing humper stickers. 1 want them 10 know that this too is part of who I am.

I've seen, to appreciate all it has to offer. There's another part of me,

But I also want to show them

So how did the party go? Well, people came, relieving my biggest fear: general cold feet. Everyone tried not to stare

named Miriaml - and communicated in the too-loud, too-slow voices of people who don't speak each other's language. As things loosened up, the

there really are Arah women

Arab women rose and began to belly dance, with a joy and abandon that made me understand the reason the Arab husbands had made me promise no men would be present. (Shlomo Riskin, Efrat's chief rabbi, had originally suggested he might be there at the beginning to welcome the

In contrast, we inhibited Jewish types made a stiff bunch, sitting very straight in our chairs and hoping no one would make us get up there and perform.

nd

My home-baked, Americanstyle cookies and cakes drew a mixed response. The Arab women nibbled politely, but left most of the food on their plates; the dieting Jewish women cast longing gazes. The chocolates a Jewish neighbor brought were gobbled greedily by all.

The Arab women brought gifts. - little porcelain knickknacks, an oddly designed ceramic vessel, and a picture I overheard my sister describe as "perfectly hideous." All these treasures must now be prominently displayed in my living room.

I gave each guest a gift to take home: flower seeds, reminiscent of the seeds Suad gave me some time ago, now growing nicely in my backyard.

Seeds can be unpredictable. Some sprout and do well; others don't make it. You can't know in advance, but one thing is sure: You have to plant them to find

The writer is a teacher who lives

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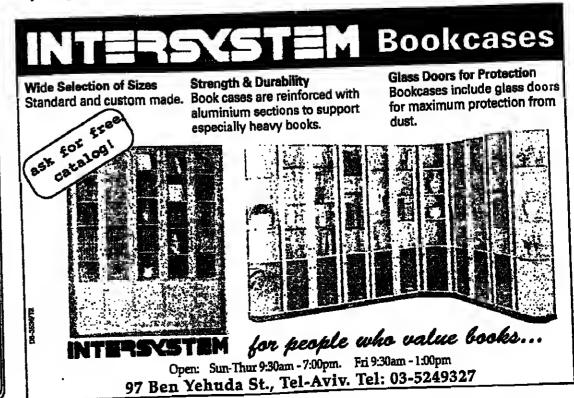
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## **Bosnian rivals** jeopardize **Dayton accord**

BOSNIA'S fragile peace process faced a new test yesterday after the Serbs cut off relations with the Bosnian government over its seizure of two officers and Croats imposed a curfew in the tense town of Mostar.

The Croat move followed a day of protests against European Union administrators in Mostar which drew strong condemnation by NATO and EU governments.

The US said it was concerned by the Bosnian government's seizure of Bosnian Serb military officers but it did not justify Serbs breaking off contacts.

Bosnian Serb General Djordje Djnkie and Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic and their driver were captured by authorities on Jannary 30 west of Sarajevo.

The Moslem-led government which admits bolding a total of eight Serb men captured around Sarajevo, bas accused the two officers of war crimes.

We're concerned about the circumstances of the detention of General Djukic, and other Bosnian Serb officials, by the Bosnian government. We've told the Bosnian government that we're concerned about that action," State Department spokesman Glyn Davies said.

"We believe it is important ... that all parties to the Dayton accords (on a Bosnia peace settlement) respect the provisions of those accords - notably in this case, the provisions regarding the

free movement of peoples."
But Davies criticised the Bosnian Serbs for declaring a boycott of all contacts on Bosnian government territory.

The UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague had asked the Bosnian government provisionally to hold Djukic and Krsmanovic, saying it is considering indicting them for atrocities committed during the Bosnia conflict.

In Vienna, the chief prosecutor of the international war crimes tribunal confirmed yesterday that Bosnian authorities did have the authority under the Dayton plan. to arrest the two officers.

Richard Goldstone refused to give any details of the evidence

against the two, saying only it was "sufficient information to justify more investigation."

In Mostar, the German administrator assigned to reunify the bitterly divided city threatened yesterday to resign unless his mission gets renewed backing from the European Union.

Hans Koschnick spoke oo German radio a day after hundreds of Bosnian Croats rioted to protest his proposal that they share power with Moslems in the southwestern Bosnian city.

NATO-led troops patrolled the city's snowy streets yesterday, and Italy's foreign minister made a surprise trip to the Cro-atian capital of Zagreb to discuss Mostar with Croatian President Franjo Tudiman.

Koschnick, the EU administrator, threatened to resign if the EU accepts a permanent division if the city.

"A German cannot concede a city division," he told Nord-deutscher Rundfunk, alluding to the 28-year division of Berlin.

A Moslem-Croat federation that will control half of Bosnia is considered a cornerstone of the peace accord. But Mostar has never overcome animosities stemming from brutal Moslem-Croat fighting there in 1993 before the federation was formed. Up to 2,000 Bosnian Croats be-

sieged the EU headquarters and attacked Koschnick in his car. Some shouted "Za dom spremni" - "We are ready for the homeland" - the salute of the fascists who ran Croatia's Nazihacked World War II

government Koschniek demanded yesterday that the Et make "a principle decisioo: Do we accept a durable division of the city along the front lines of the last war, or do we want to reunite the city?"

Koschnick's sharing plan calls for three Moslem and three Croat districts and a neotral territory in Mostar's center. The Croats angrily rejected the central zone as fourth Moslem district" because the majority of its population is Moslem.



Crewmen from a US Coast Guard cutter yesterday retrieve debris from the III-fated Boeing 757 that crashed into the sea off the coast of the Dominican Republic on Wednesday.

#### Search widened for air crash victims

PUERTO PLATA, Dominican Republic (AP) - Rescuers widened their search yesterday, but found no survivors in the sea of debris that may be all that remains of a jet that plunged into the Atlantic Ocean with 189 people.

The bodies of at least 105 people were recovered before the search was called off at nightfall amid a tropical rainstorm.

The search resumed at daybreak yesterday, with pilots from the US Coast Gnard and Dominican military directing searchers in rubber dinghies. Rescuers expanded the search area to account for possible drifting. Seas were calm and there were scattered thundershowers.

The chartered jet - substituted at the last minote - went down for unknown reasons 19 km off the resort of Puerto Plata on the north coast of the Dominican Republic oo Tuesday night. Most of the people oo board were German tourists.

Coast Guard officers described finding coffee cans compressed into pieces of tin hy the impact of the crasb.

"It doesn't look like anybody would have survived that," US Coast Guard belicopter pilot Scott Matthews said, describing an oxage

panse of floating debris and bodies.

Dominican investigators believe the plane plunged into the 1,310-meter-deep water minutes after taking off from Puerto Plata, said Air Force Col. Manuel Mendez Segura.

Its 176 passengers and 13 crew were beaded to Berlin and Frankfurt. Most passengers were German tourists, and four were children. Eleven crew members were Turkish and two were Dominican.

Officials differed over who was in charge of Flight 301 - the Dominican airline that leased the plane shortly before takeoff or the Turkish company that owned it. They also differed over whether the pilot reported problems, and the reason why the aircraft was leased as a substitute at the last minute.

Light rain was falling when Flight 301, operated by the Dominican airline Alas Transporte de loternacional, took off around 11:45 p.m. It reached an altitude of 2,100 meters and appeared oo radar screens to veer right, as if turning back, before going down, Dominican officials said.

The pilot radioed that he was returning to Puerto Plata, and the last message from the crew was "Stand by," according to Gen. Hector Roman, director of the Dominican Republic's civil aviatioo agency.

His account was disputed by an air traffic controller oo duty in the tower and by Maj. Alan Arias Batlle, a member of a committee investigating the crash for the Dominican Civil Aeronautics Office.

The pilot called in his position to air traffic controllers and then the aircraft disappeared from the screen, said the controller, who refused to give his name.

"All the communication was normal," Arias Batlle said. "In oo moment did they speak of an emergency.

The Boeing 757 was leased sbortly before takeoff from the Turkish Birgenair company after Alas' own Boeing 767 developed mechanical trouble, Birgenair said. The 767's landing gear wasn't functioning properly, according to an Alas employee who requested anonymity.

Birgenair's owner, Gulperi Peri, told The Associated Press there was a report that lightning may have struck the jetliner that crashed, but investigators said no cause had

been determined.
Rosamarie Meichsner, a spokeswoman for Schoenefeld airport in Berlin, said the planes had been switched because the flight was underbooked for a 767, which holds about 300 people. The 757 holds 224

A Dominican civil defense official, Domingo Antonio Vargas, said late as many as 126 bodies had been found.

The bodies were taken to a makeshift morgue consisting of two refrigerated seafood trucks at Puerto Plata. The dock where the trucks were parked was protected by beavily armed Dominican guards.

"At this stage, unfortunately, we have no hope of finding any survivors," the German ambassador, Edmund Duckwitz, said at the

### Mandela expected to seek economic changes

CAPE TOWN (Reuter) - President Nelson Mandela opens the third session of the first democratic parliament today with an address likely to focus on economic measures to speed change away from apartheid structures.

The simple opening ceremony will take place against a backdrop recently stripped of the apartheid icons that dominated the first two years of all-race government.

The portraits and busts of colonial and Afrikaner generals and politicisms inherited from the former white parliament were removed in January to make way for the United Nations Art Against Apartheid exhibition

formally unveiled yesterday.

But the issues facing Mandela's transitional government of national unity remain largely the same as they were when he became the country's first black president on May 10, 1994.

Sources in Mandela's office and in his dominant African National Congress (ANC) said his state-of-the-nation address at 11 a.m. (0900 GMT) was likely to be based on a statement by his party last month which talked about the need to accelerate the transformation away from apartheid.

"I don't expect any major announcements - he will be leaving the details to his ministers over the next few weeks... but he will want to underline the need to get on with transformation," said a source in the presidential staff. Another source said Mandela would be "setting the scene for accelerated transformation on

the back of economic growth!" Mandela's ANC, which won 62 percent of the vote in South Africa's first all-race polls nearly two years ago, is coming under fire from impoverished blacks for the slow delivery of what many see as the legitimate fruits of

democracy. The bonsiog backlog has grown during the first two years of democracy to at least 1.5 million units, schooling is still based on the apartheid model that favonts purils in traditionally white areas and the country's 40 percent unemployment rate hits hlacks much harder than whites.

The government has given notice of legislation this year to bring equality to schooling, electricity supply, drinking water access and medical care.

It plans to promote freedom of information and economic to fight a spiralling crime wave that has hit South Africa hard recently.

The government's plans for the coming year should become clear when Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg tables his budget next month. He is expected to try and boost growth without fuelling inflation or a budget deficit predict-ed to be about 6 percent of GDP

#### Ireland presses its 'Dayton' plan

DUBLIN (Reuter) - Ireland sought US support yesterday for a plan to hold a two-day hrainstorming session of Northern Ireland's political parties to pave the way for a permanent end to 25 years of political and

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring travelled to Washington to enlist Bill Clioton's hacking for Bosnia-style talks which the US president successfully convened in Davton, Ohio.

Irisb officials said they expected a sympathetic hearing from Clinton, who paid a triumphant peace-making visit last year to Ireland, but they face a familiar struggle in persuading the British to accept it.

They hoped a two-day session of intensive "proximity" talks under

the same roof might pave the way for Unionists, who want the province

to stay British, and Nationalists, who want it united with Ireland, to sit The British government reacted coolly to Spring's proposal within hours of him making it public.

A year has passed since the death of our beloved

DANIEL ROCKMAN

Family and friends will meet at the Mt. Herzl Military

Cemetery on Thursday, February 15, 1996, at 3 p.m.

The unveiling of the tombstone for

HENRY MARKHAM \*

will be held on Monday, February 12, 1996 (22 Shvat

5756) at 3 p.m. at the Vatikim Cemetery, Netanya.

Our beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather

MORRY CRAMER

passed away on Wednesday, February 7, 1996.

He will be very sadly missed.

The funeral will take place today.

Friday, February 9, 1996, at 12 noon,

at the Ramat Hasharon cemetery, Morasha junction.

On the second yahrzeit of

Rabbi JEROME POMERANTZ >>>

we will hold a memorial service on Tuesday,

February 13, 1996 at 3:30 p.m.

at Har Tamir, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.

Markham, Lawson and Turner Familles

Families Schapiro, Cramer end Argan

The Family

## Clinton optimistic on cooling of China-Taiwan tension

WASHINGTON - President Bill said: "I don't expect that to hap-action against Taiwan if it formally Taiwan would not explode into military conflict because too much was at stake in Asia.

"We bave so much good going on in Asia in terms of economic growth and opportunity. I just don't believe the leaders will let that turn around," Clinton said. When asked if he expected

Chinese military action against Taiwan, which Beijing regards as a renegade province, Clinton

Clinton said yesterday he is confi- pen. We understand what the declares independence or continand I don't expect that to happen."

Clinton made the comments after a congramiatory phone call to newly inaugurated Haitian President Rene Preval. He reiterated the US "One China" policy recognising Beijing as China's government and urged leaders in Beijing and Taipei to work out their differences peacefully.

China has threatened military

national status.

Some reports have said it is planning big exercises in the Taiwan Strait ahead of Taiwan's March 23 presidential election.

At an earlier Senate hearing, senior US officials warned an unprovoked attack by China on Taiwan would have grave consequences, but they would not be specific and said they saw no evihave very grave consequences," tary Kurt Campbell told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord said "an unprovoked attack would be taken extremely seriously." advance what the United States

But he said he could not say in would do except that "the first thing" the administration would do would be to go to Congress "to fashion a bipartisan response."

#### Four die in French storms

BAYONNE, France (AP) - Vio-lent thunderstorms accompanied by winds of up to 144 km an hour killed four people, caused heavy damage, and left some 200,000 homes without electricity in southwest Fraoce, officials said

yesterday.

The heavy winds sent rooftops flying, cut power lines, uprooted trees, and prevented access to the commercial fishing ports in Bay-onne, Hendaye and Saint-Jean-de-Luz near the Spanish border, officials reported.

Some 200,000 homes were with out electricity yesterday along the Atlantic Coast, the national power company Electricite de France

Rescuers found the body of man . buried inside his bulidozer by a landslide in the town of Tardets in the Atlantic-Pyrences department in the French Basque country near

the Spanish border. A second man, an employee for the Dassault airplane builder, was killed by a container lifted off the ground by heavy winds, officials

in Bordeaux on the Atlantic Coast a falling tree killed a 60-year old man, officials reported. Earlier rescue workers had identified the victim as a 73-year old woman.

Firemen discovered the body of a fourth victim on the banks of the: Garonne River in the village of Saint-Louis de Montferrand, Officials said the unidentified man was probably surprised by the rapidly rising waters that forced the evacuation of hundreds of people.

The heavy winds also injured several people across the Gironde department, including eight firemen and a gendarme on resone

#### dence China would attack.

We announce with regret the passing in Jerusalem of our dear FRITZI GOCHSHEIMER

She bequeathed her body to science. A meeting of remembrance will be held on February 22, at 4:30 p.m. at the Leo Baeck Institute. 33 Rehov Bustenai, Jerusalem.

On behalf of the family -

Michael J. and Salomé Berger, Jerusalem Naftali and Shoshana Kadmon, Jerusalem Mirale Schlesinger, Kfar Szold

The Members and Friends of **NEVE SHALOM/WAHAT AL-SALAM** 

regret to announce the death of Fr. BRUNO HUSSAR

the founder of their Jewish/Arab community.

On Sunday, February 11, a prayer service will be held at Beit Isaiah, 20 Rehov Agron, Jerusalem, at 11 a.m. The coffin will then be brought to Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam where mourners may pay their respects from 1 p.m. The funeral will take place at 2:30 p.m.

The consecration of the tombstone of my beloved wife, our mother and grandmother,

#### WALLY HAMMERSCHLAG > 7

will take place on February 15 at 10:30 a.m., at the new Ra'anana Cemetery

Lutz and Family

### V-2 site to be museum

HELFAUT-WIZERNES, France

A Nazi German V-2 rocket base intended to blast England into submission in the closing stages of World War II, is to reopen as a war museum next year. The vast and sinister concrete

edifice near the northern French town of Saint Omer was built with Russian forced labor and proved indestructible when British Royal Air Force bombers tried to penetrate its five meter thick roof.

"Hitler said his Reich would last 1,000 years. Fortunately, it didn't. But he built this place and it will be here in a thousand years," said Historian Yves Le Maner ou a press tour of the Speaking beneath a massive,

50,000-tonne concrete cupola atop the base, Le Maner said: "We will make very clear the rockets were built by immates of the Dora concentration camp in Germany at the cost of thousands of lives and that this base was built with Russian slave labor." But he added: "We certainly

will not hide the fact that the V-2 was a scientific and technical marvel which was the forerunner of the generations of rockets which followed and which put man on the Moon. Many of the same scientists were involved." The 50 million franc (NIS 30

million) World War II European History Center which has been partly funded by the European Union and is aimed at educating Europe's youth about peace, is expected to draw around 250,000 visitors a year.

It is also hoped that the museum will provide jobs and draw

tourists to this once-prosperous, but now depressed industrial area 35 kms from Calais on the Chan-War nostalgia is already big

business down the coast at the

Normandy beaches, where allied forces landed in 1944, and at the site of the 1916 battle of Verdun. The base, the biggest fixed launching sit for the fearsome V-2 rockets pointed at Britain during World War II, has kilometers of underground tunnels.

The central exhibit is a towering, genuine V-2, one of only four or five left in the world, in its original camouflage. Visitors will tour the base with headphones providing running commentaries in French, En-

glish, Dutch or German.

actly the same for all - German teenagers are as horrified by the war as are French or English teenagers," Le Maner said. Ironically the base, called "the Cupola" because its dome is a prominent landmark among the

"The commentary will be ex-

area's chalky cliffs, never fired a single rocket. When Britain's Royal Air Force discovered its existence in early 1944, it dropped about 3,000 tonnes of bombs on the structure, but they caused only slight damage to the five-meter

thick concrete roof. The RAF then blasted railway tracks and bridges in a wide surrounding area to preveot the Nazis bringing in the rockets.

The Germans finally evacuated in July 1944 shortly before the base fell to the Allies who landed in Normandy in June. (Reuter)

Ten years after his dramatic arrival, the former Prisoner of Zion has gone from national symbol to political activist, **Abraham Rabinovich** writes

he trip from hell to paradise, as Natan (Anatoly)
Sharansky would term it,
took only two days. Within 48 hours of his departure from Moscow's Lefortovo Prison he had arrived at Ben-Gurion Airport. It would take another week before Sharansky was able to detach himself from the warm. clamorous attention of the leaders of the nation, the public, and the world media. With his wife, Avital, from whom he had been separated for 12 years, he escaped to Safed for their first holiday

together.
"I remember waking the first morning in this huge hotel room 20 times bigger than my isolation cell," he recalled this week, on the eve of the 10th anniversary of his arrival in Israel.

There was a hlossoming almond tree reaching up to our

went out and saw these small hirds, Palestine sunhirds, on the branches singing. I said to Avital, 'Look, it's paradise,' and I moved the bed out on the balcony. I had not only arrived in a spiritual paradise but a literal paradise."

A decade later, Sharansky laughingly admits that the only direction one can go from that peak is down. "T've had my car stolen, I do army reserve duty, I've been deceived by a contractor, and I pay 45 percent taxes," he says. "How much more Israeli can I be than that?"

Nevertheless, he still hears birdsong in the blossoming trees -Inevitably I became more realistic, but for me this is still paradise." A romanticized image of Israel had sustained him - along with thoughts of Avital and the chess games he played in his head - as he lay on the cold floor of isolation cells or in the frigid gulag during his nine years of incarceration. As the symbol of the Jewish emigration movement, Sharansky constinited a walking proclamation of defiance that a totalitarian system like the Soviet Union's could not tolerate, lest he serve as an example to others. Their object wasn't to kill peo-

ple like me but to have us say we were wrong and they were right,"

This he consistently refused to do, at great personal cost. He is convinced that the Jewish emigration movement, with its tens of thousands of people who publicly said they wanted out of the system, was a major factor in the chain of events that led to the downfall of communist rule.

Instead of surrendering his personal vision of Israel to reality upon arriving in Jerusalem, he chose to coerce reality into that vision - one that foresaw a massive immigration of highly educated Soviet Jewry. Contrary to prevailing establishment opinion in Israel and world Jewry, he was convinced that at least 400,000 Soviet Jews would come in a first wave if Moscow opened its gates.

When it was announced that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would visit Washington in December 1987, Sharansky attempted to persuade American Jewish leaders to organize a demonstration of 400,000 Jews in Washington as a mirror image of the prospective Soviet Jewish emi-

"It was the opinion of the [Jewish] establishment that there weren't 400,000 Soviet Jews wbo would want to come to Israel," he recalls. "They said maybe 20,000. They also said you could never get 400,000 persons to Washington for a demonstration, particularly in winter. I was also told that the Cold War was over and that we were the last warmongers."

Dealing with the last objection first, Sharansky personally spoke with then-president Ronald Reagan and then-secretary of state George Shultz and determined that they had no objections to a demonstration on behalf of Soviet Jewry. He then undertook a crosstour to promote his idea and raise funds for it himself. "I made more than 200 speeches

and met with editorial boards of newspapers," he says. As grass-roots support for the project mounted, the establish-

ment changed its attitude. "In the end, the UJA organized buses and planes and 250,000 persons came. It was the higgest demonstration in the history of Washington and it made a tremendous impression," Sharansky says. "We learned later that the first words Reagan told Gorbachev were 'You see what my people demand. This is a democracy. I

cannot ignore it." It was not by chance that when Gorbachev decided to liberalize his regime, Sharansky says, one of his first acts was to open the gates

to the Jews. "That's where the pressure was," he points out. Gorbachev would thereafter find it impossible to close the gates to other forms of liberalization as well, with enormous consequences.

SHARANSKY ADMITS to having battled feelings of hitterness at the Jewish establishment's opposition to ideas which seemed obvi-

ous to him.
"There were absolutely stupid attacks on me," he says. "One American Jewish leader said that if I did not stop my behavior I would be replaced by Yosef Begun, who had just been released hy the Soviets.

"I learned that if you want to change things you have to challenge the establishment, which is by nature conservative. You have to irritate it, to wake it up. Then you have to start doing what you want done. When the establishment sees it beginning to work, they will join you and then they will take the credit.

"But that's good. The idea isn't to destroy the establishment. You have no other power hase. One thing about being in prison is that it gives you a sense of proportion about what's important."

The inflow of 650,000 Jews in

FRENCH

**ARABIC** 

RUSSIAN

the money in the US which enabled the launching of the highly acclaimed Gesher Theater, which performs now in Hebrew as well as Russian.

million hudget is met hy the Jewish Agency.

NOW 48, Sharansky will within a few days emhark on a new adventure - the establishment of a political party that will run in the opcoming elections. Called Yistael B Aliya ("Israel on the Ascent," hut also a play on the word aliva, immigration), it hopes to draw votes not only from Russian immigrants but from people interested in a centrist party that places priority on a high level of education and on "Jewish education that unites people, rather

On the political questions separating the major parties, Sharansky places himself in the center.

[Netanyahu] or Shimon [Peres]. wants to go but the speed."

ethnic immigrant party contradicts the very notion of integration. Sharansky argues that it will help the immigrants integrate hy becoming part of the political sys-tem. If he is elected, the challenge for him will he to tweak the establishment's nose while being part of the establishment himself.

He also admits to being curious about seeing his KGB file. His daughters - Rabel, nine, and

U.S. and Canada

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**HEBREW** 





The tumultuous reception at Ben-Gurion Airport (top) was, Sharansky says, 'a happy blur of all my dreams.' (Above:) Now a politician-in-the-making, Sharansky was then a figure unifying all factions; welcoming him are (from left) Yitzhak Shamir, Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, Ariel Sharon and Shimon Peres.

gear, or lack of it, generally signals one's religious world view. Sharansky has retained armed neutrality hy adopting an incongruous khaki army forage cap which he generally wears in pub-

from communist territory as part

of a prisoner exchange across the Gleinicke Bridge in Berlin on

February 11, 1986, wearing a black

fur hat and an oversized coat, then

the tumultuous reception at Ben-

Gurion Airport and his visit to the

"Each time I see those pictures I

realize that I don't actually

remember anything of what hap-pened then, that hack then it was

just one hig happy hlur of all the

dreams I had dreamed hundreds of

times coming true," he reflects.

When you are living a dream you

see everything only in general.

His warm home life plainly

feeds his inner strength and his

cheerful disposition. There had

been many who predicted that

Avital's adoption of a religious

lifestyle during their years apart

would inevitably create intolerable

tensions unless she or he changed.

"Everything at home is working

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**ASHDOD** 

KIRYAT MALACHI

KIRYAT GAT

you don't see the details."

Western Wall.

lic. Determined as he has proven himself to be as a fighter for a cause, he has until now sought to avoid any political commitment heyond his efforts to improve the lot of Russian immigrants - that would identify him as a member of a particular camp in Israel. "If I had been asked in prison

ing the interview.

whether I felt a spiritual link to the political right or the left in Israel or to the religious or nonreligious, I would have thought it crazy," he says. "Your strength derives from feeling that you are part of a people living through an historical struggle that has been going on since the exodus from Egypt. I didn't want to take sides."

is Shahbat; no tetevision. I recom-

mend it for everybody. Each of us

is moving in the direction of

Judaism at his own speed. It suc-

ceeds because there is love and

respect and an understanding that

you can only succeed together. We

His circle of friends is made up

of immigrants from many coun-

tries as well as sahras. He still

plays chess occasionally and takes

long walks as often as he can, but

his favorite pastime is to pack the

family into a car and take a ride

into the country.
"I would have liked to have 10

daughters," he says, the closest note to regret that he sounds dur-

In a country where one's head-

don't regard it as compromise."

If he is elected to the Knesset, the luxury of being above the battle will no longer he his. He may prove a natural choice for Israel's presidency in another 20 years, but he will first have to hruise himself in the corridors of the K where even national symbols have to choose sides.

If his spirit and optimism survived the Soviet penal system. however, there is a reasonable chance it will survive partisan politics as well.

"Real life is challenges and problems which you thought you had overcome returning to life," he says. "But I still believe, and I live with this feeling, that with all the problems, this is paradise."

#### Spy superstars in a blockbuster trade

Natau Sharansky's walk across the Cleinicke Bridge (with US ambassador Richard Burt) meant freedom for Czech spies Hana Koecherova and Karel Koecher going the other

TOM GROSS

It was a dimensic moment that some now say heraided the begin-

I was a diamagic moment that some now say be added the beginlang of the end of the Cold War.

As Name Sharansky walked to freedom arross the Glemicke
Bridge into West Berlin, under the fall glain of the world's media,
two Czech-spies, Hama Koscherova and hel histond, Karel Koecher,
wont the other way They were being traded (as part of a wider fivefor-four prisoner exchange) by the Americans, back into the hands of
their Soviet paymasters and for an oncertainty file.

Sharansky's record in the 10 years since his release is well-known.
But what of those with whom he was swapped? One might have
expected the ensuing decade, which saw the collapse of the
Communist system the Koethers had done so much to uphold, to
have treated them bridly. Far from it.

Working as an accomplice to one of the leading spies of the Cold.

War era is not assually the best qualification for a plum job at the
commercial section of the British Embassy in Frague. But there were
some red faces at her majesty smissibuliast year after it was revealed
in a Czech Gorffordin (during a Boel case) that that is exactly where
in a Czech Gorffordin (during a Boel case) that that is exactly where
Koecherous worked from February 4.992 to fine 1994.

In spite of their story being well-decumented of Robert Kessler's
hook Spy well an Spy and on numerous incide repeats, the British forlegin officet set-field to have been manage of her past.

In fact, she has quite a conjectuation was According to a leading
fill counter intelligence agent, the Koechers were recurred in 1902,
and trained for two years before being sent to the US in 1965, where
they were grafted political asylum. Karel worked for Ratio Free
Burdie; sindied at Columbia University under Zingniew Brizerinski.

Have mand from 1973 storked as a university under Zingniew Brizerinski.

Have were grafted political asylum karel with on several occasions in
headquarters to Czech agents she net with on several occasions in
headquarters to Czech agent she past to stor the ratio of the past of the pa

In December 1984, Karel was indicated on espionage charges by a federal grand jury in New York. Aiming to use her as a prosecution federal grand jury in New York. Aiming to use her as a prosecution witness, Hana was granted immunity. But in 1984, she too was arrested and imprisoned after refusing to take the stand against her

On February 3, 1986, a few days before being swapped for Sharansky. Karel pleaded guilty to espionage.

Hana, meanwhile, continues to maintain her innocence, despite. overwhelming evidence to the Sontrary, including swom FBI affi-dayits given to the New York court stating that during interrogation

she had admitted to being trained as a spy Last year, the Prague court also upheld the actusations against ben.

The publicity simpoinding them the not subside at the time of them. The publicity surrounding usen are not subsuct at the time of their exchange in 1986. As late as February 1992, the same mount exchange in 1986, As late as February 1992, the same mount exchange in 1986, As late as February 1992, the same mount of the same mountains piece about the Koecher's case. Times ran a 1,000 word commentary piece about the Koecher's case. Which it called "one of the best ever penetrations of the CIA."

British embassy officials, however remain aghi-lipped about Koecherova's employment, denying that she had access to classified material while at the embassy. material while at the embassy.

It seems that her him was more a monumental foul-up by the lit seems that her him was more a monumental foul-up by the British Foreign Office, revealing major flaws in vening procedures, rather than some bisage post-Cold War game of double blaff, rather than some bisage post-Cold War game of double blaff.

This certainly wouldn't have happened in the Soviet Union, says Sharmasky. They hape were well how to check three or four generations back there.

the past five years surpassed even Sharansky's mitial expectations. Has their absorption been a suc-"In terms of immigrant absorp-

tion, if we were talking about a normal state, it has been a super success," he says, "All these people who arrived in such a short time have housing, they're working, they're being educated. But if we're talking about integration, about a Zionist state with a vision,

we are failing."

The current immigration is one of the best things that has ever happened to Israel, Sharansky notes, hut Israel doesn't truly appreciate it.

In the wake of the "intifada" last week in Jerusalem, one of the Russian-language newspapers published a cartoon of a Russian immigrant consoling an Ethiopian immigrant hranded with an "AIDS" sticker hy saying, "At least they're not calling you mafia, prostitutes or document forgers."

Some 9,000 ex-Soviet scientists have come in the current wave of immigration, a boon to any country. But about 1,000 have left, he notes, and for more than a year almost none have come.

Sharansky's proposal for the creation of a Weizmann Institutetype facility in the Galilee to attract the cream of Jewish scientists remaining in Russia has not

elicited enthusiasm in Jerusalem. "Every economist will tell you that Israel's economic growth in the last five years is due to this immigration," Sharansky says, "even though the immigrants are not being used to their full potential only 30 percent are working in their professions. At the same time, half the children under the poverty line are Russian immigrants." Although every Israeli is living better because of the new immigrants, he says, there is a widespread feeling

that the Russians are parasites living at the generosity of the veteran population.

We have to give people an awareness that their future, including their economic future, is linked to Russian immigration," he says.

With changed priorities, he says Israel can draw another million immigrants from the former Soviet Union - "of course, 30 percent of them non-Jews," a reference to spouses and other relatives of immigrating Jews - in the next five to seven years, he says.

Beginning with money he raised in the US. Sharansky founded the Zionist Forum, which has served the Russian immigrants as a lobhying body as well as providing practical assistance ranging from counseling to second mortgages. When the establishment declined to help establish a Russian-language theater in Israel, he raised family would during the long prison nights. Each year on the anniversary of his arrival in Israel, they celebrate a "second seder" together. watching the video clips of his own exodus from "Egypt" to freedom.

They view him being expelled

Today most of the forum's \$1.5

than divides them.

"We will be in a position to enter negotiations with either Bihi he says. "Our problem with Shimon is not the direction he

Sharansky had ample opportunity to enter the Knesset in the past on the tickets of several parties. but at the head of his own party he hopes to be in a position to truly influence national policies.

There are many who feel that an

Sharansky has not been back to Russia since he left it, but he intends to make the trip one day. The main reason would he to visit my father's grave. I haven't

been there yet," he says.

Hanna, seven - and his wife pro-vide the solace he had imagined a

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المتعدد المتعدد

April 1981

Settlers who want to leave the areas have received little sympathy from the government, **Ruth Mason** reports

12

They were looking to leave their kibbutz and buy an affordable bome. The ad, taken out by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, was targeted at young families like them, suggesting they settle in Ma'aleb Ephraim, a new town over the Green Line in the Jordan

The ad said that Ma'aleb Ephraim was designated as a development town in Area A. meaning residents would receive tax breaks, good mortgage terms and other incentives. It described tbree- and four-room private homes with yards and offered financial help to those who chose to make the move.

The ad listed the many kinds of occupations that were needed in Ma'aleh Ephraim and extolled the high quality of the dwellings there, the beautiful view, the pleasant climate and the challenge of participating in the building of a new town.

The Selas were taken with the idea. But they did not want to build their lives in a place that might some day be relinquished in a political settlement.

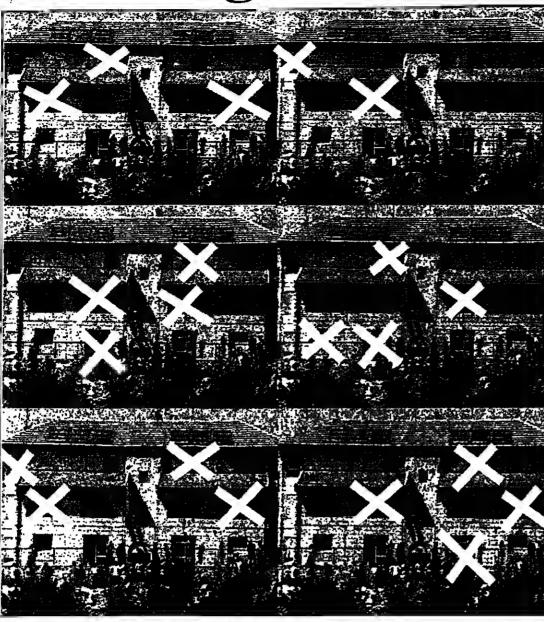
So Ami Sela wrote to Shimon Peres, then head of the Labor Party, to ask about the party's policy regarding this area of Judea and Samaria. Peres wrote, "The Bik'a [Jordan Valley, Gush Etzion and Jerusalem must remain outside of any negotia-

On the basis of this letter, Ami Sela and his family moved to Ma'aleh Ephraim. Now. 16 years and one peace process later, the Selas feel betrayed.

"It's a simple matter." says Sela. "For many years, successive governments encouraged people to come here. In the last two years, the present government changed its mind. It should now take responsibility.

"The government is deviating from any acceptable moral standard. It is saying it will leave us within the [areas controlled by the] Palestinian Authority. The government is telling us: This is your problem. You were Israelis.

THE SELAS are not alone. In recent months, hundreds of families have come forward saying they want to leave the territories and are demanding government compensation for the homes they



Some homes in Kiryat Arba may empty of residents as settlers choose to cross the Green Line. Flash 901

#### Labor gets a surprise from the territories

wo thousand residents of Judea. Samaria and Gaza have registered themselves as Labor Party members.

Labor Party spokesman Yoram Dori expressed great satisfaction" with the results. "The numbers testify to the fact that there are, among the settlers, those who understand what is good for the country and what is good for them. We see this as an expression of confidence in the government and in the prime minister. It's clear to them [settlers who support Labor] that Jerusalem will be the eternal. united capital of Israel: that we will not go back to the 1967 borders; and that the Jordan River will remain Israel's security border."

Those registering with Labor include 383 people

from Ma'aleh Adumim: 199 from Givat Ze'ev; 144 from Ariel; 106 people from Har Adar . 74 from Oranit, 22 from Kiryat Arba. 21 from Beitar, 18 from Sha arei Tikva, 14 from Eli and five from

Reports in a Hebrew daily on Wednesday that Labor is considering setting up a primaries booth in Kiryat Arba because of the 22 residents who signed up there were neither confirmed nor denied

The elections committee will make that decision," a source in the spokesman's office said. "But it's hard for me to believe that for 22 people, we will set up a booth."

are giving up, homes that are maybe not all, but those in more now worth a fraction of their problematic areas." original value.

A three-room apartment in Kiryat Arba now fetches less than NIS 100,000 about a fifth of the price of a comparable apariment inside the Green Line.

The government could alleviate some of this anxiety and the explosiveness of the situation if it began compensating settlers -

At the end of January, approximately 120 settlers who want to move met in Kiryat Arba to express their concerns. The group originally asked the Kiryat Arba Community Center for a room for the meeting, but they were turned down. They decided to meet in a private shelter, but when more than 100 people showed up, they moved the meet-

Mossi Raz, political secretary

of Peace Now. who is belping these settlers, says some participants said their bosses had tbreatened to fire them if they attended the meeting. He added that "If, despite this fear and the cold, so many people came, it proves that the number of people who want to leave is very high.

"In September, Peace Now commissioned a poll by Modi'in Ezrahi which showed that 40% of settlers want to leave in exchange for compensation. (Twenty-eight percent said they

definitely or probably want to leave; 12% said they may want to leave. In some areas, such as Kiryat Arba, Ma'aleh Ephraim, Alfei Menashe, Ariel and Emanuel, the percentage of those who said they want to leave

THE NUMBER of phone calls to the Peace Now office from settlers who want to leave increased after Yitzbak Rabin's assassination, Raz says, but be does not know wbether to artribute this to the murder or to the IDF pullout from areas in Judea and Samaria.

Meretz MK's Anat Maor and Benny Temkin also attended the meeting and called on the government to help evacuate residents who want to leave and to at least consider temporary solutions such as belp with renting apartments.

"They can't leave without financial belp," says Raz. "Their apartments are now worthless."

"It's our right to ask to leave and it's the government's duty to belp us," says Sima Mizrahi, a Kiryat Arba resideot who organized the meeting. "When I moved bere 20 years ago, I needed the government and they needed me," says Mizrahi, who was injured in a bus attack during the intifada.

"The government encouraged, even pushed us to move here out of ideological reasons. How good, they said, it is to strengthen the settlements that are over the Green Line. Today, the situation has changed."

The settlers, some of whom, with the help of Peace Now, formed a non-profit organization called Settlers for Voluntary Evacuation. have turoed to the government but, they say, they have not been given satisfactory answers.

Peace Now developed a compensation program which they sent to the government but they have not yet had a response, says Raz.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres's spokesperson, Aliza Goren, says only that "We can't deal with compensatioo or alternative housing while there is no government decision on the matter."

Some people feel that those who moved to the territories knew the risk they were taking and moved anyway. Now they need to face the music.

Others are more sympathetic. "In the end, many settlements will be evacuated and the government will pay compensation," predicts Raz.

"A long-term set of policies created this situation," says a source close to the settlers. "The government has always bad an ambivalent policy of balf-promoting, balf-fighting the settlers. The government intended to secure the territory provisionally without having a long-term vision of what it would mean for

people to set up their lives there. "I put much more blame on the government than on the settlers."

## Channel-surfing with Likud

MICHAL YUDELMAN

ONE are the pompous and traditional party cooveoetection campaigns. These days, you know that the time is here when the political seniority of those yelling at one another on television rises rapidly.

Likud leader Binyamio

Netanyahu kick-started this year's wacky races. In an over-tong prime-time interview conducted hy Dan Shilon on Channel 2's Live Broadcast, Bibi endeavored to present his credentials as prime ministerial right stuff.

At the same time, he was chal-lenged in absentia on a Channel 1 Popolitika episode which was even more farcical than usual.

Viewers could switch from watching Bibi list the advantages of the Likud-Tsomet single list agreemeet for Shilon to viewing Likud MKs David Mena and Ovadia Eli savage the agreement on Popolitika. Labor Interior Minister Haim Ramon, expected to head the party informatioo machine, waded in to declare the Likud-Tsomet pact a symptom of panic. Typically, Ramoo said, Bibi under pressure jumps to impulsive conclusions and makes the wrong decisions - "one more reason not to vote for him as

While Bibi charmed Channel 2's cameras with his telegenic profile and political agenda, a slightly chubbier Bibi - impersonated by comedian Tuvia Tsafir - in a bright green blazer played out a vulgar but funny satire of his "sizzling cas-sette" infidelity affair on Channel I. "I'm Bibi Clinton the second," Tsafir sang, mocking the Americanization of Israeli politics.

WORDS ON WOMEN Bibi stood firmly pro-choice on abortion, upholding a woman's

rights regarding her own body.
On Popolitika, MK Tamar Gozansky (Hadash) wrangled with Degel Hatorah's Moshe Gafni over. the right of a Knesset member's common-law wife to his pension after the man's death.

Business star Pnina Rosenblum, who once expressed Knesset ambitions, supported Gozansky's legislative initiative to guarantee pension rights for MKs' loyal, though nawed, life partners. "We wouldn't be in this fix to start

with if it weren't for religious coercion," she said, The journalist wife of MK Silvan Shalom (Likud); Judy Nir-Shalom-

Moses, somehow missed the point: of the debate and zoomed off on a tirade sgainst older men who become rich and famous, jilt the faithful wives who have aged alongside them, and skip off with some "spring chicken." You've been varned, Suvan:

This left poor Rabbi Gafni, who up to here had held his own quite well, somewhat baffled. He politely asked for someone to explain what 'spring chicken" meant. It's a type of foul, Rabbi, not a

ASSA'S BACK Remember Haim Assa, prime

minister Yitzhak Rabin's controver sial strategy adviser who was kicked out after the elections? Assa claimed he fell from Labor's

grace due to intrigues hy Rabin's close aides. Now he's on his way to a key role in Labor's campaign. About a year ago, the media reported caustic criticism of Rabin supposedly would appear in a book by Assa, once more irking the pre-mier's office. Assa was accused of plotting revenge for being cast out of the inner circle.

All has changed. At Labor ecretary-General Nissim Zvilli's birthday party in Glil Yam's Provincia cafe last week, there was Assa, hobnohbing with Shimon Peres, Ebud Barak, Binyamin "Fuad" Beo-Eliezer, Shimon Shetreet, David Liba'i, and Knesset

members. One of the guys again.
Fuad, now coofident of being asked to run Labor's campaign, was asked if would work with Assa, as he did in 1992. Fuad's answer was unequivocal: "I'm sure I will."

Assa's book, Essentiality (Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1995), hit the book shops last week, but anyone looking for that alleged scathing attack on Rabin and his government will be disappointed. The worst criticism in the book,

which analyzes the tasks for democracy oo the thresbold of the 21st century, centers on the "irrelevance of Israeli leaders":

"No Israeli leader in the third period had, or has, any clear political code. Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin, Menachem Begin, Yitzhak Shamir and Rabin again, represent anachronistic modes of thought and a complete lack of understanding anything related to the society they are supposed to lead."

CRUSADING CARPENTER Imagine Rafael "Raful" Eitan, who never tired of bashing the haredim and harping on their draft evasion, sporting a kippa and hotly preaching the halachic way of life. Raful's dash into the arms of the Likud, which boasts support from both the religious and haredi camps, makes even this absurdity possible. Shas's Aryeb Deri was the first to

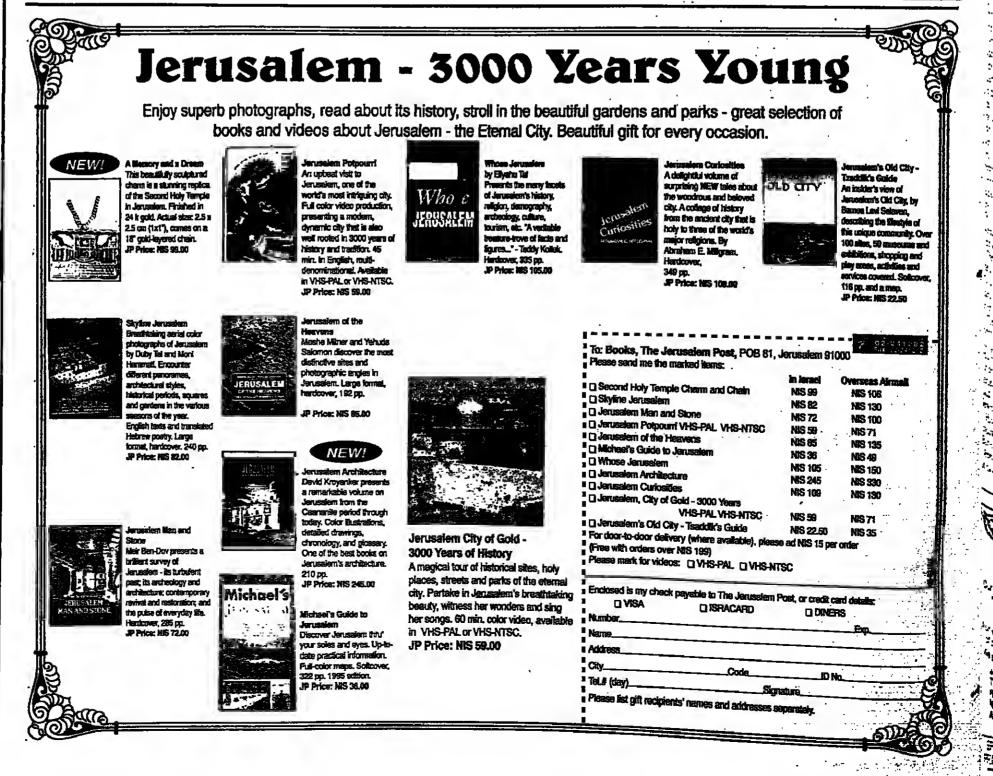
see the potential. "We are pleased to see Tsomet part of the Likud," he said, a tad ironically perhaps. He added he would like nothing better than to see Raful in a kippa defending the sta-

This is just what Raful will have to do once inside the Likatd. Tsomet had already fost its politically-clean, honest-Joe image before the merger. It shouldn't have any trouble shaking off its antireligious coercion, pro-freedom-of-choice ideology.

So are we to see Raful's ruddy. sun-roughened cheeks set off by sidelocks and ten muscular biceps? Will his honest farmer's hands, gnarled from driving the plow and building wooden stools, be raised in defense of the

Far-fetched? Raful went on the air this week to state: "We are not antireligious. I am the only one [among party leaders] to say the altar of Joshua Bin-Nun is sacred!"





bruary 9, 12

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## Reaping the immediate benefits of peace

TEDDY KOLLEK with AMOS KOLLEK

have always felt that making peace will take a long time. I am not referring just to eventually reaching some kind of an agreement with Syria, which of course is a tricky and difficult task, but to the type of relations that peace will

bring about.
What will it mean? What will it entail? A central point is that almost no Palestinian, whether he has made peace or not, believes that we have the right to be here. They don't think that the historic claims that we make to the land are any absolute rights. To them we remain a strange element. It will take a long time for them to get used to us, even under the best of circumstances.

I think we have also done something to exacerbate the situation by playing the part of a conquering nation from 1967 until now, almost 30 years. I can never forget how in June of 1967, only a few days after the great victory of the Six Day War, Ben-Gunon said Israel should immediately return to the Arabs all the territories it had just conquered, with the exception of Jerusalem. because of its special meaning to us, and a few minor changes in the border for security purposes.

None of the dozen or two other people in our apartment on that occasion - army commanders and government officials, knowledgeable people in positions of power agreed with him then. What a pity. Now, we are in fact doing what he had advised then, but unfortunately, a lot of damage has been done

Aside from the blood spilled and money wasted, hatred and bitterness that have been nourished daily for three decades cannot be quickly or easily eradicated on either side. But in 1967 we were drunk with the magnitude of our success and couldn't see the long-term conse-

I, too, rejoiced in 1967, although I thought it was a dangerous victory with the dimensions it had taken. Now we are finally apparently reaching some agreement with the Palestinians, but there are very few among them, if any, who in their heart have given up Acre or Jaffa, and certainly not Jerusalem. So peace will take a few generations, until we and the Palestinians get accustomed to living as compara-tively peaceful neighbors.

We will need to work hard on security, and when we talk about peace, it will not be a friendly peace like that between France and

So in the long run, I remain optimistic. In the immediate future, however, we must bear in mind that we need peace because we have a whole range of problems we have to solve which we cannot concentrate on while under the constant threat of war.

We must deal with severe poverty, crime and drugs, unemployment and other issues like Jerusalem's finure and observant and secular Jews learning to live together.

The issue common to many of these problems is economic. If we could solve the economic situation, the tension will be reduced considerably in most areas of our lives. That is why peace, even an imperfect one, is so important and so urgent. Real friendship between us and our neighbors will probably come only much later, but it will

## Editorial opinion slants news at 'The Economist'

The Economist used to be one of the few British journals whose coverage of the Arab-Israel conflict could be considered fair. No more. Having adopted a crusading, heavy handed pro-Palestinian line, it has now joined the first rank of Israel-bashers.

The change is felt not only in the magazine's editorials. Like virtually all news magazines, the prestigious weekly seems incapable of separating editorial poli-cy from reporting. Its news stories are prime examples of advocacy journalism.

To his credit, the magazine's International Editor Stephen Hugh-Jones makes no secret of the magazine's editorial bent. Responding to a complaint hy the American media-watch organiza-tion CAMERA, Hugh-Jones wrote: "We do indeed think there should in time be a Palestinian state. Why? Because we reckon rightly or wrong; but after five wars in 47 years, we surely have a point - that this would be likelier than any alternative to bring justice and peace to Palestinians and Israelis alike."

But, Hugh-Jones hastens to add: "We have argued this point in our editorials; we neither need nor want to slip it in covertly in our reporting." In this he is quite accurate, though perhaps not the way he meant to he. The Economist neither slips in its bias, nor does it covertly. The tendentiousness, warps and slants of its reporting are hlatant, overt

and open for everyone to see. Two recent examples are typical, though by far not the most offensive. Setting the tone of its January I3 report on the killing of Yihye Ayyash in the story's headline - "Untimely Killing" -

the magazine devotes most of the tale to worrying about the killing's possible adverse effects. "Agreement between the

Palestinian Authority and Hamas is as integral to the peace process as Israel's redeployment of troops. But oo this point Shimoo Peres, Israel's prime minister, has seemed as insensitive to Mr. Arafat's dilemma as was Yitzhak Rabin.... There are grounds for Palestiniao aoger. Since September, the rejectionists have held off from armed operations against Israel. Last month's 'reconciliation' talks in Cairo between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas are said to bave brought a tacit agreement wbereby Hamas's restraint would go on, except in the face of 'hla-

Criticism of Israel for being insensitive to Arafat's need to placate Hamas, and a statement like "there are grounds for Palestinian anger" are outra-geously misplaced in a news story. And these blatant journalistic transgressions are made particularly unpalatable hy the fact that the magazine would never dream of justifying Israeli anger at, say, the killing of 50 of its citizens by Ayyash.

tant aggression against our peo-

The story also included some hand-wringing over the impact of the Ayyash liquidation on the Palestinian elections. With what proved to be utterly unwarranted anxiety, it stated, "Far more damaging, the killing could affect the election's credibility." The Palestinians are "hungry for democracy," it continued, but the Israeli action may cause support

Had the story been published on the opinion page it would DAVID BAR-ILLAN

have made an excellent editorial. In The Economist it masquerades as a news story.

The magazine's January 27 report on the Palestinian elections suffers from the same affliction. Opening with "At their election last Saturday for a new Palestinian Council and separately, a president, Palestinians gave their fellow-Arabs a rare lesson in democracy," it scrupulously avoids any mention of the numerous reports of election fraud. Cheating was so blatant that in some places the PA had to order repeat elections.

Nor was there any mention in this story or in any preceding Economist edition of the kidnapping and arrest of Al Quds editor Maher Alami, or the abduction of buman rights activist Bassam Eid by Arafat's Preventive Security police, both intended to intimidate the press and Arafat's crit-ics; or of Arafat's penchant for disqualifying primaries winners if the candidates were not to his liking; or that Palestinian TV restricted its news coverage to Fatah candidates; or that the campaign rhetoric by virtually all candidates was characterized by venomous anti-Israel diatribes which made a mockery of peace and reconciliation.

All Economist readers were told was that the election was faultless. If there was any criticism, it was directed at Israel: "In Jerusalem, the intimidation was obvious. During the campaign, Israeli policemen harassed candidates and election workers. Israel's Likud opposition ran a campaign warning poster

Palestinians that they would lose their residency status if they voted for 'a foreign government.' On election day, voters had to wade through a sea of 2,000 Israeli policemen guarding the five post offices that doubled as polling stations. 'It is bardly surprising that Palestinians felt intimidated, said ex-president Jimmy Carter, who was an elec-

tion observer." Carter's attack was one of his typical "hlame Israel first" tirades. The police, as he knew all too well, were there to protect voters against possible harassment by Jewish protesters.
Ironically, the credibility

afforded Carter, a politician who never met a dictator he didn't like, was out of character for the magazine. In the past, The Economist was less than charitahle to this perennial Nobel Peace Prize candidate. It once referred to him as "a man with a foreign policy of his own to conduct, wbo as president was a waffler and a flincher." But at The Economist anyone critical of Israel cannot be all bad.

If the report on the election does contain a surprise, it is in its veiled criticism of Arafat, something bordering on heresy on the magazine's pages. Titled "Palestinians vote for democracy. hut will they get it?" the story praises the elections as such, hut expresses fear that the elected Palestinian Council may lack power. At first glimpse readers may presume that the magazine is worried that this lack of power would mean that the Palestinians will be deprived of democratic procedures, due process, human rights and the like. But they are soon disabused of their concern. What The Economist worries

about is that the Council "can neither abrogate nor amend any of the agreements signed with Israel" and that it may not be powerful ecough to stop Arafat from making too many concessions to the Israelis in the final status talks. "Given the imbalance of power between them and the Israelis, there are bound to be major Palestioian compromises on the final-status questions. Their leader will need help if these compromises are not to be read as abject surrenders."

The Economist's position is. then, not only anti-Israel but more extreme than Arafat's declared positions. It seems to take its cue from Edward Said, who has savaged Arafat for being an Israeli puppet. Again, a perfectly legitimate position when presented in editorials. But when permeating news stories it makes a mockery of journalism.

#### **CLARIFICATION**

One of the errors in the Associated Press chronology of Palestinian history discussed in last week's "Eye on the Media" was the following: "December 12, 1988: Arafat accepts Israel's right to exist." The column asserted that neither in 1988 nor since then has Arafat accepted Israel's right to exist, but only the fact of Israel's existence.

This is true regarding Arafat's statements in 1988. But on September 9, 1993, four days before the signing of the Oslo agreement, he included the following sentence in the letter to then-prime minister Yitzhak Rabin: "The PLO recognizes the right of the State of Israel to exist in peace and security."

In return, Israel recognized the

## He wants a press that is free and non-answerable

Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate for a ... old say about how such criticism moment to prefer the latter, a moreover that one must be doing

T TRITING TO editors or journalists who publish or write inaccuracles or distortions is "counter-productive."

This was a bit of wisdom a journalist addressing the Sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media in Jerusalem last week shared with his col-

The speaker was this Jerusalem correspondent of that London newspaper. The Financial Times, this Julian Ozanne. He was a featured speaker in a symposium entitled, ironically, "Free Press -Responsible Press.

Arriving in the middle of Ozanne'a talk, I heard him relate some of his adventures as a journalist in Africa. He interspersed his narrative with some ancient one-liners about journalism, and one or two that seemed to be his own. His witticisms apparently were new to many of his listeners, for, in various degrees, they responded appreciatively. From Africa he brought the

audience to Jerusalem, where one of the butts of his wit was The Jerusalem Post and its weekly "Eye on the Media" column written hy David Bar-Illan. There were some giggles in the audience when Ozame said, "You know, there's a newspaper here called The Jerusalem

: M. - 75E

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artistic and the second

The giggle continued when he went on to say that the Post delights in "trashing" newsmedia people who write, publish or broadcast material critical of Israel. It especially delights, he said, in branding "self-hating" Jewish journalists.

His audience's giggle grew to a chuckle when Ozanne, recalling Bar-Illan's "trashing" of him (April 29, 1994), expressed pride at having been chided hy a right-

Tiberius: Jordan River

#### MOSHE KOHN

wing newspaper. He repeated the

Thomas Jefferson; letter to a something right. The chuckle burgeooed to more general laughter when he pointed out how Bar-Illan had spoiled it all by praising him a year later. This, Ozanne said, had caused bim to feel ashamed before his colleagues.

> IT ALL began when Ozanne published an article in The Financial Times (April 18, 1994) in which he characterized the Post as leading the Israeli press in "fuel[ing] fears." He suggestcd that the Post sought opportunities "to include in the sport of thumping" the PLO, the "peace process" and the Rabin govern-

> He was referring to the Post's editorials criticizing the less-than halfhearted "regret" and wholebearted inaction of Yasser Arafat, and the timid action of the government, following the series of attacks hy Arab terrorists between April 6 and 13. In those incidents - at Afula, the Ashdod junction, and Hadera -13 Israelis were killed and 85 wounded, most of them civilians and many of them schoolchild-

Ozanne criticized the Post for using "its own politicized lan-guage." This applied to describing the perpetrators as "terrorists" rather than "guerrillas," and calling "the Israeli-occupied West Bank... by the biblical name 'Judea and Samaria' [and] the territories 'administered' [rather than] 'occupied'."

I hope you are aware how history is distorted and facts are falsified by the terminology preferred by the "Palestinians" and their sympathizers in the news media and other fields, including Israeli and Diaspora Jewish journalists and academics.

A brief reminder, however: "West Bank" has been in use only since Jordan's King Abdullah occupied and then in

near lake Geneva

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1950 annexed the areas historically called (in ooo-Jewish as well as Jewish sources)

"Indea/Samaria."
"West Bank" is to modern "Eretz Tristael what "Palestine" was to second-century Eretz , Yisrael, when the Roman emperor Hadrian renamed the country in a corrupted Latin form "Philistia" as part of his effort to obliterate every Jewish vestige

The term "administered territories" was officially designated hy the Eshkol government in 1967, as a compromise between "liberated" and "occupied."

To "Arab guerrillas" advo-cates, IRA people murdering innocent Irish or British civilians are "terrorists." Arabs doing the same to Jews and others in the vicinity are "guerrillas." (And vice versa, of course.)

WHILE ON the subject of semantics, I urge those who believe that we are traveling on a "peace train" to a "New Middle East" to stop speaking of "giving back" areas to our Arab so-called peace partners and instead speak of "giving up" areas.

As international jurists have pointed out: Israel's claim to the West Bank/occupied territories" is no less valid than anyone else's. Bar-Illan pointed this out in the column at which Ozanne scoffed and in other columns, and I have pointed it out several times over the years (it often seems to no avail).

So after you "give back" the "West Bank" to its alleged rightful owners, you will be asked where you are ready to "give up" by way of compromise to achieve peace. Eastern Jerusalem? Jaffa? Acre? The achieve Negev? Galilee?

AS NOTED, Ozanne said he felt ashamed when, on March 17, 1995, Bar-Illan praised him for writing stories in recent months that are balanced and fair... devoid of... snideness and exaggerations..."

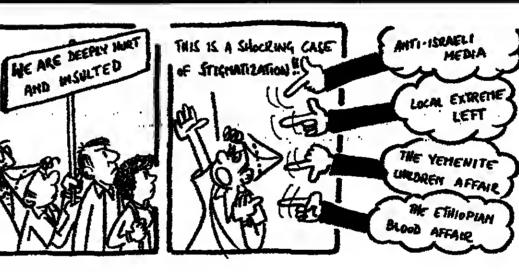
Ozanne seems to have recovered his pride. And Bar-Illan tells me Ozanne oever respooded to the substance of his criti-

That befits a journalist who thinks readers shouldn't criti-Ozanne, like far too many of

our colleagues, apparently does-

n't see the connection between "free" and "responsible." A Dogma of Journalistic Infallibility or Noo-answerabili-

IN 1807 Thomas Jefferson, theo in the third year of his second term as US president, wrote to a friend: "The man who never looks into a newspaper is better informed than he who reads them, inasmuch as he who knows nothing is nearer to the truth than he whose mind is filled with falsehood and





## We must remember Amalek and Jethro

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall you labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God..." (Exodus 20:8-10)

EMEMBER the Sabbath. Remember Amalek. Last week's Torah reading concluded with devastation, and this week's deals with revelation. Is there a connection?

We all experience some degree of reversal in our lives, but every once in a while one reversal is so devastating that it seems impossible to get back on our feet again unless a total shift takes place within us - a radical transformation of the soul.

This is what happened at the end of last week's portion, Beshalah, when the Jewish people faced their first major challenge after their escape from Egypt. The entire world should have heralded little Israel, escaping bondage from the most powerful empire then existing and starting out with a message of freedom that could revolutionize the destiny of the entire world. What a powerful entrance onto the stage of world historyl

But then, for no apparent reasoo (not for land, wealth, or glory), the nation of Amalek attacks the weakest link of this nation - the old, the frail, and the young. In the annals of Jewish history, this act destruction for the sake of destruction - has come to be identified with the essence of evil.

God commands the Jews to record this attack for all time; never to forgive and never to forget what was done to them in the desert.

SHLOMO RISKIN

Even though we can no longer identify the Amalekites, Maimonides specifically rules that identify this commandment "\_ is a law for all generations."

The command to obliterate Amalek's memory is eternal. Reb Chaim of Brisk explained that any nation, such as Nazi Germany. which raises its banner to destroy Israel is identified as Amalekite.

The commandment to remember the evil perpetrated against you is repeated hy Moses at the end of his life: "You must obliterate the memory of Amalek from under the heavens. You must not forget." (Dent. 25:18)

Obviously, the good will never triumph unless we are duty-bound to extirpate evil. However, our Torah is not built upon the tragedy of evil and our remembrance and destruction of it. Exit Amalek and enter Jethro:

"Jethro expressed joy because of all the good that God had done for Israel ... He said, 'Praised be God who rescued you from the power of Egypt and Pharaoh..." (Exodus 18:9-10)

Jethro is first and foremost a priest of Midian, a gentile who never converts to his son-in-law's religion; nevertheless, his admira-tion for God and Israel is genuine. In praising God the Redeemer of

Israel, Jethro puts things ioto focus, giving the Jews an opportunity to see that the entire world does not consist of Amalekites and that our God is not first and foremost a God of vengeance, hut is rather primarily a God of redemp-

Their juxtaposition alone would have been enough to bring us to the conclusion that the Torah wants these two gentiles to serve as foils for each other; what confirms it is that each incident becomes the source of a commandment passed down for generations - destroying "evil" on the one hand, but also

The inclusion of the Ten Commandments in this week's portion signifies how crucial the equence is. Only after heeding both commands - remembering to destroy evil through Amalek and praising God for redeeming us - is it possible to truly keep the Torah's commandments.

praising God for His miracles.

However, the commandment to remember to destroy Amalek is not one of the Ten Commandments, whereas the commandment to "Remember the Sabbath Day" is an eternal reminder of our exocus from Egypt and the Sabbath which holds out the promise of peace and harmony throughout creation.

A CURIOUS phenomenon has manifested itself in America. In keeping with the commandment to remember Amalek, expensive Holocaust centers have been built in New York, Washington D.C., Vancouver and Los Angeles. But a Holocaust center which doesn't manifest the words of Jethro's praise and enthusiasm for the greatness of God misses the subtle message in this week's portion.

Remembering the Nazis is only half the story; by itself it is not enough to guarantee a Jewish future. Amalek must be linked to Jethro, devastation must be linked with revelation, destruction must be linked with redemption.

This is why one Holocaust center in America stands apart in its effort to preserve not just a memory, but also a commitment toward the redemption of the Jewish people. In Los Angeles, the Simon Wiesenthal Center is linked to Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, and the significance of this fact bears the same significance as the proximity of Amalek to Jethro.

Jewish education is the only proven guarantee for Jewish survival; Amalek will only be destroyed through national redemption and the divine laws of ritual and ethics.

But there is only one Yad Vashem in the world and that's not only because of the quality of its exhibits. The simple and glorious fact is that in leaving Yad Vashem, one finds oneself io Jerusalem, where Torah centers flourish.

The experience of visiting Yad Vashem becomes a living intersectioo betweeo Amalek and Jethro Effort should be made to guarantee that all future Holocaust centers provide this interweaving of past and future.

Our Sages say that eventually all of the Holocaust centers in the Diaspora (the "dry bones" of Ezekiel), along with the Diaspora synagogues, will move to Israel to signal the ultimate destruction of evil and to herald the coming of the

Shabbat Shalom

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## Czech mates

NICK KOPALOFF

lew countries take such a genuine pride in their Jewish heritage as the Czech Republic. In some Czech circles one can even gain a certain credihility if one can trace some distant Jewish lineage in the family.

It was only upon my return from a recent visit there that I learned that two of the country's foremosi chess players were in fact Jewish. Solomon Mikhailovitch, alias Salo Flohr, was born in Ukraine in

1908. During World War I. he was orphaned and moved to Czechoslovakia to escape a porom. He quickly gained a reputation as an outstanding chess player while in his teens, and started to make a living by playing chess for

stakes in Prague cafes.
It is said that during the Berlin tournament of 1928 Flohr discovered chess was being played for stakes in a room adjoining the tournament hall. Within days he had taken money from everyone there and hy the end of the official tournament most of the prize money had found its way into Flohr's pocket. He apparently had to lend one or two of his victims

money for the fare home. According to Anne Sunnuck's Encyclopaedia of Chess. Flohr hecame a national hero in Czechoslovakia - Salo Flohr collars, Flohr slippers. Flohr cigarettes and even Flohr eau de Cologne appeared on the market

In 1937 Flohr was selected by FIDE as official challenger for Alexander Alekhine's World Championship title, but Germany's invasion of Czechoslovakia ended that dream, and the wandering Jew returned to Russia, Flohr never truly recaptured his previous form. He adopted an overcautious approach to the game and became known as a draw expert.

Perbaps Czechoslovakia's most famous player was Richard Reti, who was born in Pezinok in 1889. He is remembered more as a theoretician than, a player.

His best-seller, Modern Ideas in Chess, revolutionized Chess theory by introducing ayant-garde hypermodern elements into it. Here be aesthetically demolished world champion-to-be Max Euwe.

Euwe, Max - Reti, Richard Amsterdam 1920 Two Knights Defence

-1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4: Euwe chooses not to enter the well-trodden Fried Liver or Wilkes Barr lines with 4.Ng5

4...exd4 5.0-0 Nxe4; Reti prefers to avoid the dangerous

line 5...Bc5 which allows White to play the dreaded Max Lange attack with 6.e5

6.Re1 d5 7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qa5: Two other adequate alternatives for Black are 8...Oh4 and

9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4; In his monumental book Modern Chess Openings. Walter Korn recommends 10.Nxe4.

10...f5 11.Bg5 Qc5 12.Qd8+ Kf7 13.Nxe4 fxe4 14.Rad1 Bd6 15.Qxh8 Qxg5 16.f4? Qh4 17.Rxe4

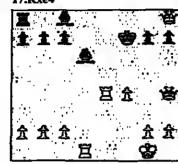


DIAGRAM 1 after White's 17th move

17...Bh3!!; Having been seemingly tied up for most of this short game Reti unleashes his decisive attack, offering the sacrifice of his own rook on al in the process. White has no choice but to accept

18.Qxa1 Bc5+ 19.Kh1 Bxg2+! 20.Kxg2 Qg4+ 21.Kf1 Qf3+ 22.Ke1 Qf2++ 0-1

From the following classic prob-lem composed by Richard Reti, the caption White to play and draw, would appear to be a misprint. Black's passed pawn is out of reach of the White king and is well on its way to a promotion. while the Black monarch comfortahly checks the advance of White's c pawn. Nevertheless. amazingly. White can force a draw.

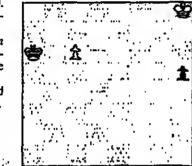


DIAGRAM 2

Solution: 1. Kg7 h4 2.Kf6 Kb6 ; 2...h3 3.Ke7 h2 4.c7 Kb7 5.Kd7 3.Ke5 h3 ; 3...Kc6 4.Kf4 catches the pawn 4.Kd6 h2 5.c2 0.5 0.5

This is the only season in which many wildflowers can be seen.

## Looking for wildflowers

lthough it is still winter, there are many wildflowers to look for on a quiet stroll. While some are less remarkable than the big anemones, they are beautiful and, for many, this is the only season when they can be seen and appre-

Some of them are common only to the desert areas, while others grow over most of the country.

One very special plant is the desert stork's bill, Erodium touchyanum in Latin and beloved by Israeli children as mekor hahasida. This is a perennial herb of the geranium family found in the Negev and the Judean Desert. It is a low-lying plant with pink flowers, but it is the elongated, sharp-ended seed pod that gives it its name in both English and Hebrew.

The second flower of this family, the mallow-leaved stork's bill, is also a type of geranium that grows all over the country. It is also pink but with a smaller seed pod. Both of these flowers bloom from February to April.

For a dash of color there are

16 Fresh information about

18 Any one of the following (8)

19 Taking tsa with Evita

21 Harse and trap showing

sign of neglect (6) 22 Man takes lead in play (6)

26 Pass provided for health

27 Found to be contemptible

SOLUTIONS

PREMITAGES ENVOY B N N E I B N E I B N E

l Craving, 2 Until, 3 4 Notice, 5 Padre, 5 Ide, 7 3 Hake, 14 Ien, 16 Dyke, 18 Endorse, 21 Lenient, 23 4 Samba, 25 Paste, 27 Orace,

DOWN

4 Conventional (6)

1 Begin (5)

5 Incite (7)

6 Testy (9)

7 Lamp (7)

8 Thought (4)

12 Detailed (9)

15 Applause (7)

17 Gemstone (6)

19 Wicked (4)

21 Upright (5)

24 Wonder (3)

14 Rebuke (7)

2 Employ (3)

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

3 Authorised (8)

1 Broth (4)

9 In front (5)

10 Forbear (7)

11 Fasten (3)

14 Motive (6)

13 Snowslide (9)

16 First child of

18 Reproduce (9)

25 Perpetuity (8)

26 Obligation (4)

Jacob (6)

**20** Sheep (3)

22 Speech (7)

**23** Angry (5)

requires a third party

the interior (5)

resent (8)

resorts (4)

bets (6)

NATURE D'VORA BEN SHAUL

plenty of yellow pheasant's eye around. This plant. Adonis dentata or dimumit meshunenet in Hehrew - is a flower of the crowsfoot family. But unlike all the other pheasant's eye type plants in Israel, which are red, this one is a strikingly bright yellow with a distinctive dark brown center. It also continues to bloom until April.

A real treasure, if you are lucky, is the lesser celandine, Ranunculus ficaria, a relative of the red bunercups, or the well-known nuriot. Like others of this family, it belongs to the crowsfoot group and has very bright yellow flowers and shiny green leaves. It is not common but can be found in fallow lands in the north and central regions of the country.

And for a real carpet of flowers. look for the yellow Jerusalem spurge, Euphorbia hierosolymitana - called halavluv megubshash in Hebrew. It grows throughout the entire Mediterranean region in rocky

terrain, and the plants are domed and found in groups. They also

bloom into April. Don't forget the beauty of the white wildflowers - mayweed, chamomile, Anthemis leucan-themifolia or kachvan hahof,, and the southern daisy, Bellis silvestris or hinanit habatah. Both of these are white flowers with bright yellow centers, the mayweed having flowers that are much larger than the little daisy. Both bloom from December to March.

And then there is corn salad better known to some as valerian, Valeriana discordalis or, in Hebrew, valerian italki, A perennial valerian, its roots have the well-known valerian scent familiar from cat-nip. The stalk is tall with pink and white flowers.

But we can't conclude this very partial list without mentioning mountain knotgrass, Paronychia argentea, or almavet hakesef. This prostrate shrub grows in rock crevices in the Mediterranean area, is a member of the pink family and has small flowers that last a long time. It can be found from January right up until June.

# Bridge world remembers Reese

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East-West vulnerable North **♠** Q6 ▼ AQJ95 **0 194** 🙅 Q74 **♥** 73 **♥** 862 **◊ KQ107** 0 A52 ♣ K10653 South ♠ AK8732 ♥ K104 ♦ 863

pass pass (all pass) Opening lead: \$5 Terence Reese, one of the world's most famous bridge players and authors, died

North

last week at the age of 83. Reese was born in London in 1913, learned to play bridge at the age of six, and began playing in tournaments at 14. He went on to become a World Bridge Federation Grand Master, representing Great Britam in numerous European and

World Championships.

Reese will go down in history as the world's most prolific and popular bridge author. Since 1955, Reese has been writing bestselling bridge books, newspaper columns for the London Observer and Evening News, and regular articles for magazines such as The Bridge World, Australian Bridge, British Bridge and Bridge Today. Reese had the unique ability to

write for both experts and beginners. His most famous book was Play Bridge With Reese, written early in his career. His last two books, published in 1995, were That Elusive Extra Trick, written in collaboration with David Bird, and Learn Bridge in Five Days.

Reese was known for his great concentration at the table. I had the personal honor of meeting him 20 years ago in London. I was there for the Sunday Times Pairs, an invitational event.

The following week, my partner, Sam Stayman, Reese, Boris Schapiro and I boarded a train to Leeds to play an exhibition match against four members of the Israeli team, winners of the 1975 European Conships (Micha Hochzeit, Shaya Levitt, Julian Frydreich, and Elyakim Shaufel).

During the train ride, Reese was involved in a friendly game of backgammon with Stayman. When the rest of us got off at Leeds, however, Reese and Stayman couldn't be found. They were so immersed in their backgammon game that they had forgotten to get off the train. We flagged down the train as it started to pull out of the station and quickly retrieved them.

Perhaps the most humorous story about Reese is the one in which a bet was made at the rubber bridge club on whether Reese would be distracted by a nude kibitzer. She was seated near Reese as he played a difficult game contract. Reese made his contract, never losing his concentration.

Today's deal is from Reese's best book for advancing players.

Master Play, first published 36 years ago. Since then it has been read by nearly every bridge player who has ever had the ambition to become an expert.

After a light opening bid, South reached four spades. As you can see, the defenders can take four tricks and defeat the contract, but if they fail to do so immediately, declarer can draw trumps and run his heart suit, discarding minor suit losers from the South hand.

West led the five of clubs to East's ace. East switched to the king of diamonds and followed with the seven to West's ace. Now West did not know which minorsuit trick to attempt to cash.

When he played the king of clubs, declarer ruffed and made his contract. West claimed that he

simply guessed wrong. Couldn't his partner have held five diamonds and three clubs? But Reese explains that a defender in the West position must ask himself the following question: "Is there anything in my partner's play up to now that does not fit in with the picture of the hand on which my intended play is based?"

If East had held five diamonds to the king-queen, it would have been his clear duty, after cashing the king of diamonds, to cash the queen, intending to hold the lead and switch to clubs himself.

THE ISRAELI International Bridge Fostival begins Thursday. February 15, at 4 p.m. with a twosession Mixed Team of Four at the Ramada Inn in Tel Aviv. For more information, phone (04) 833-5333 or (03) 605-8355.

#### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Bill nn the line expresses

agreement (6) 4 Badly cut, see! (8)

9 Found and copied (6)

10 Horse sadly lost nail (8) 12 Rolls of bread initially well

turned (4) 13 Heavenly food for many a

girl (5)

14 Nothing more than twn notes (4)

17 Sporadic localities (4,3,5) 20 Workers disturb the bard, in some measure (5.7)

23 Certainly nothing to chatter about (4) 24 The way part of a match turns into matches (5)

25 Cunning, in the main (4) 28 Lashes about the favourite dogs (8)

29 Profession has run rapidly out of control (6)

30 A light sweet (5-3)

31 He arranges the gravs stons to be assembled about ten (6)

DOWN

I The English way? Ah, no-but a foreign sort (8) 2 Wine found in many picnic

baskets (8) 3 Look up and be dizzy (4)

5 Dinner suita vary in different countries? (6,6) 6 They may be found in a creel, squirming (4)

MINDONSING . 7 Left in play (6) 8 American combination of 11 They have grounds for belonging to the upper classes (6,6) INSPIRED BY AN EBA 15 Tropical bird with head of & LEGENDARY STYLE. myna and cry of a rook (5)



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### A thousand points of light BEVERLEE BLACK

'd like to share with our readers the following letter of thanks we received from Yehoshua Ayalon, cducational coordinator of the Youth

Protection Authority. "Every year at this time, following Hanukka, it is my special privilege to thank you and all your friends and contributors to your wonderful campaign, including, of course, the readers of The Jerusalem Post.

We, the staff of the Youth Protection Authority, who are responsible for the care of marginal youth and juvenile offenders, benefit every Hanukka from your tremendous help, which is totally devoted to the purchase of games that provide hours of pleasure, positive experiences, learning opportunities, and the acquisition of positive habits of social behavior, particularly the opportunity to voluntarily obey rules for cooperation with others.

This year, we were privileged to receive your contribution, with which we purchased many dozens of games and balls that undoubtedly have a very positive effect on the leisure-time hours and social activities of these youngsters.

Therefore, on behalf of the students and management of the Youth Protection Authority, 1 would like to extend our gratitude and best wisbes from the bottom of our hearts to yours." Need we say more? Please send

your checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Donors in the US wishing to receive tax benefits can send their donations to: Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

FORSAKE ME NOT

NIS 167,000 From the Estate of Eva NIS 1,000 William Goldfarb, Tel Aviv. NIS 1,000 William Coldiano, 1et Aviv.

NIS 100 Anon., Beil El. Wishes for a speedy recovery for Eyal to Edith — E. and M.N., Tel Aviv. In memory of Yitzhak Rabin — Ursula Kroner, J'lm.

NIS 80 In honor of the 80th birthday of

Norman Boas - Judith and Ellis Wynick, Rehovot. In honor of Manrice Braverman's 80th Birthday - Kathy Kahn, J'hn. NIS 36 In honor of Philip Armel's 73rd

birthday - Love, Sharon and Joyce and NIS 25 In honor of Mr. and Mrs. G.C.L. Clarke's 50th Wedding Anniversary in South Africa - Gershs 4 in Omer. \$1,000 Mr. and Mrs. David Silver,

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New Donation NIS 168,521 Progress Totals NIS 182,146 \$10,380 (Other currencies converted to NIS)

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MIS 100 In memory of Oron - Prima and
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NIS 25 In memory of all our loved ones

Gershs 4 in Omer.

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Anon., Beersheba (via P.E.F.).
\$126 in honor of our grandchildren Yoni, Donny, Dina and Aryeh Zahler and Jenny, Sarah and Rebecca Krant – Sy and Rochelle Krant, Newton, MA.
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We both

actions;

# St. Malo: The poor man's Riviera

nother misty day in Brittany and no way to A spend my big wad of francs. All I could do was drink Campari for 20 cents a shot, bicycle through the medieval lanes of this ancient walled city, jog atop the great stone ramparts, wade into the English Channel, play lowroller games in the casino, chow down cheap crepes or quenelles, board the mini-train at the city gates or take the sea shuttle to the posh resort town of Dinard.

Then again, I could listen to the free brass band at Place Chateaubriand; walk to the Petit Be before the 17-meter tide turned it into an island; strop for UCLA Bearwear or Levis for less than they cost at home, or take the bargain bus to the abbey at Mont St-Michel, an hour's drive to the east.

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STOTIN

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I ended up doing it all. I could not waste any time. After all, my first-class hotel room was setting me back \$75 a night.

Here, in France's heart of dar-lingness, a mainly low-hudget crowd from northern France and Britain's Channel Islands shares uobelievable values on France's Emerald Coast, the Poor Man's Riviera that stretches east/west along the Channel north of

Within the 90 blocks of cobblestoned alleys in the heart of the Old City lies a wonderland of chocolaties, charcuteries, boulangeries and brasseries, towered over by the striking St. Vincent Cathedral. When I visited, tourists in shorts were lying on the floor of this heavy, Gothic church, staring up in awe at the majestic vaulting in the 12th-century nave.

St. Malo was not always just a cute little fishing village. For four years, beginning in 1590, it was a free and independent nation, with its own parliament. It sent ambassadors to the capitals of Europe and pirates to England. In time it became a world leader in piracy and remained so until the 19th century.

It remains a free-spirited, spunky little city. Its coat of arms proclaims, "Ni Francais, ni Breton, Malouin suis." (I am neither a Frenchman nor a Breton,

but a man of St. Malo).

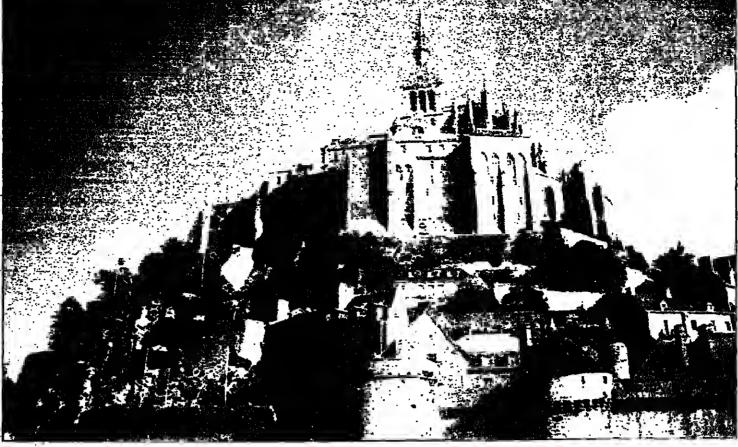
Every Saturday night during the summer, St. Maio sets off fireworks and puts on a lighthearted sound-and-light show in the courtyard of city hall, the former castle of Duchess Anne of Brittany (1477-1514), to commemorate the golden years of independence and the glorious centuries of piracy.

On an excursion train tour I took to orient myself with the confusing rabbit warreo of twisting streets in the Old City, the driver proudly referred to St. Malo as the "corsair city." The tour, conducted in French and English, began at the gates to the city and rolled on rubber tires for half an hour past the former homes of pirates, patrious, priests and explorers. Shopkeepers and little children

Whatever one might feel about the residents elsewhere in France, in St. Malo they are positively an asset, in fact a joy. The locals look much alike, with sharp noses and complexions so burnished to perfection that they appear to be painted on. Their courtesy and unrelenting cheerfulness were, for me, wondrous to behold after four days in Paris. (My last memory of Paris was being yelled at by a jeering mob for letting the door of a coin-operated pay toilet close behind me as I left.)

After the train ride, I stepped into Le Charly's Bar on Place du Marche aux Legumes and ordered Campari. The bartender filled a five-ounce wine glass to the brim and charged me FR 5, about 90 cents at that day's rate of exchange. In Paris, I paid FR 35, more than \$6, for a single shot no bigger than a thumbnail.

As a pre-dinner drinking crowd surged into the Place Chateaubriand and then into the byways, I took refuge at the Pub L'Encrier, Bar Mexicain, Therewas nothing visibly Mexican about it, certainly not the men playing darts in the front, the higscreen TV hlasting MTV nor the blonde, hine-eyed Frenchwoman holding court, drinking coffee and tonic and smoking a cigar. At a



Abbey-capped Mont St.-Michel is just an hour's drive from St. Malo on France's Brittany Coast.

France wasn't going very far, a Tuborg here cost me \$2.50. It cost more than \$7 in Paris.

For dinner I chose a romantic restaurant that was frozen io ages past. At Faisan Dore, the Goldeo Pheasant, I ordered the kind of classical meal that haso't beeo served in Paris for a generation, certainly not in such generous quantities, and certainly not for the \$18 I paid.

In the morning, the sun was shioing, the air was cool and beaches were packed. Taking advantage of the low tide - at high tide there would be 13 to 17 meters of water - families hiked out to the Petit Be to tour the 17th-century Fort National, a massive fortress with a dungeoo, and teenagers shrieked in the seawater pool. A few souls hraved the 20-minute walk out to the Grande Be, where St. Malo

native son Francois Rene de Chateaubriand (1768-1848) is buried. Chateaubriand is best known to us as a piece of meat, but in St. Malo he is hailed as a great Romannic novelist.

Just opposite the gate to the Old City, I boarded an air-conditioned bus for a sceoic 41-kilometer ride east to Mont St.-Michel, one of France's most popular tourist attractions, drawing 750,000 visitors every year. Soariog up from a sandy island, surrounded by turquoise waters and perched on a 90-meter granite outcropping, the huge yet graceful abbey would be worth visiting if only for its dra-

matic beauty. But it's fun too. Visitors enter through the only entrance - a single oarrow gate and trace a winding path upward through a 13th-century village and market, strolling past hawkers

of apples, cheese tarts, Calvados brandy and religious kitsch, much as pilgrims did for hundreds of

Mont St.-Michel is bard to get to, and hotel rooms are no bargain. Most visitors take day trips from Paris, nearly five hours each way by bus. Local accommodations are cramped and priced at \$150, or more, for all but the most squalid rooms. The \$18 round-trip hus from St. Malo, one hour in each direction, is clearly the way to go.

In the afternoon, I returned to St. Malo. The sky had misted over once again, and a light drizzle was falling. The streets of the Old City were jammed, and the ramparts were buzzing, and Guernsey boys were wading in the Channel with all their clothes on.

No one fled for sbelter, and few raised umbrellas. Rain is not the

# Egypt to open four pyramids in June

gypt will open four pyra-mids in Juoe in a regioo long closed to the public in an attempt to attract tourists away from the overwhelmed pyramids at Giza, an antiquities official said Sunday.

Two of the ruins, including the so-called "bent pyramid," are considered some of the first attempts at pyramid building.

These pyramids will be opened to reduce the pressure on the Giza pyramids," said Zahi Hawass, the government's director of antiquities at the Giza plateau and nearby Saggara.
The oldest two were built by

King Snofru of the Fourth Dynasty, which lasted from 2575 to 2465 BCE. Snofru was the father of King Cheops, who built the largest of the Giza pyramids. Snofru's ruins include the "bent

pyramid," whose builders began the structure at a 54-degree angle, then halfway up abruptly changed the incline to a 43-degree angle, giving it a bent look.

The other ruin is the "Red" or "Pink Pyramid," which got its name from the reddish limestone used to build it.

The two pyramids - nearly 4,600 years old - are in Dahshour, a desert area controlled by the Egyptian military until late last year. The region, about 35 kilometers south of Cairo, is home to 14

of Egypt's 95 pyramids.

Another pyramid in the area will be opened, too, but of later construction. Known as the pyramid of Amenemhet III, it was built during the 12th Dynasty, which lasted from 1991 to 1783 BCE.

In nearby Abusir, bome to 11 pyramids, the government will open the pyramid and funeral complex of King Sahure of the Fifth Dynasty, which lasted from 2465 to 2323 BCE. (AP)

## Ticketless air travel will eliminate check-in hassles

the latest step in ticketless flying is being introduced by Lufthansac Passengers will be able to make itselvations, pay, check in, and board their flights using a Chipcard. The card, which serves as a credit card, ticket, and boarding pass, all in ooe, is to be used initially. on German domestic flights and is to be issued to holders of the airline's Senator card starting March 1. It will then be issued to frequent flyers and all interested

A FIVE-DAY diving course, from Sunday morning to Thousday Developing to the high three him Ellat by Arkia The price; including flights and hotel with breakfast with four in a room is NIS 1,465. The price per person in a double room is NIS

EL AL passengers wishing to have their suitcases enclosed in a protective plastic covering may do so, after the security check, at the early check in facilities near the

TRAVEL TIPS HAIM SHAPIRO

Tel Axiv Central Railway Station. The price is NIS 10 per bag.

THE NEXT time you want to go Dnepropetrovsk, in the Ukraine, you will be relieved to know that there is a weekly flight, operated hy Kishrei Teufa. The price of a round trip ticket is \$499. but visas to the Ukraine are \$85 per person.

AMERICAN Airlines is the latest flyer on the Internet. Their address: http://www.amrcorp.com/aa.

A CUT price of \$400 is avail-

able for round-trip flights to Kiev

from Baron Tours. The company

is also offering a three-night

weekend in Bulgaria, including

airfare and hotel with breakfast.

MOMBASA appears to be the latest hot destination, with direct charter flights due to begin in April. Bali Tours is offering a round-trip flight and a week in the Kenya coastal city for \$699.

A WEEK io a New York hotel and a round-trip El Al flight is being offered by Histour for S719 until the end of February. A similar package with flights on World Airways, valid until March 15, is available for \$875.

A THREE-night weekend or midweek package in Istanbul, including airfare and hotel with breakfast, is available from Ophir Tours for \$209. The offer is valid until March 21. The company is also selling weeklong packages to Madeira, including airfare and hotel with breakfast, starting at \$799, valid until March 31.

A NEW map and street atlas of Jerusalem has been published in Hebrew and English by Mapa Publications. The spiral bound atlas, printed on heavy paper, is available in two sizes, for NIS 64 and NIS 79. The map is NIS 29.

Emerald Coast, and nothing else mattered. (Los Angeles Times) ATTENTION: Foreign/Dual passport Holders

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enemy on the Emerald Coast.

In that spirit, I joined 50 or 60

people on the shuttle to Dinard, an

bourly ferry that runs across the

mouth of the Rance River to

another nearby resort, a richer one

Like everyone else, 1 stopped

here for a cup of coffee, there for

a Tuborg, elsewhere for a crepe

filled with raspberries and

On the beach at Dinard, boys

played volleyball in their swim

trunks, and the temperature could-

n't have been more tban 10

degrees. We were all drenched,

maybe chilly, and we didn't care.

We were vacationing on the

with a yacht club.

whipped cream.

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### **Attractions at Kibbutz Tzova** amuse both parents and kids

#### SEE IT HERE HAIM SHAPIRO

or those who want to enter-rain the kiddies and do a lit-tle adult exploring, Kibbutz Tzova offers both a mini-zoo and antiquities.

The kibbutz, located southwest of Jerusalem, may be reached either by leaving the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway and going through Maoz Zion or by driving through the Jerusalem suburb of Ein Kerem and following the signs for Tel Aviv.
For the zoo, follow the signs in

the kibbutz to Park Hahai. The facility is far smaller than, say, the Jerusalem zoo, but the attraction here is the proximity of the animals and the opportunity to pet and hold many of them The zoo also has the animals

from what was formerly the Judean Desert Reptile Park, located in Jerusalem's Terra Sancta building. Concerned parents will be relieved to know that this part of the zoo contains only one poisonous snake, which is virtually maccessible.

According to Yael Kerem, director of the zoo, there are 150 species at the zoo. Some of the animals, such as the peacocks and gazelles, wander freely around the facility.

While at the zoo, you can also make arrangements to go on a wagon, pulled by a tractor, to visit nearby Ein Tzova, a spring complete with an elegantly built water tunnel. It is tempting to claim that the tunnel dates back to biblical times, but Reuven Kalifon, director of antiquities at the kibbutz, admitted that the experts say that it could be from as early as the Second Temple period to as late as

the Byzantine period.
A short distance away are a series of First Temple-period tombs cut into the hillside, one of which was excavated by Kalifon. It is perhaps because of this that he is very enthusiastle about this tomb, which provides a particular-ly clear understanding of the bur-



Kids can get up-close to the animals at the zoo at Kibbutz Tzova, near Jerusalem.

ial customs of that time.

There is a small, square entrance, leading into a fairly roomy cave with ledges around the walls. Each ledge has one or more rounded indentations, a "pillow" for the head of the deceased, while at the center is a pit into which the bones were thrown

after the body had decomposed.
Kalifon, who said that once the bones were excavated they were handed over to the Religious Affairs Ministry for rehunal, ooted that most of the skulls found were those of children. This, he said, reflected the fact that until a century or two ago most children died at a young age,

leaving relatively few adults to reach maturity.

Above the tombs is a large level stone area with the remains of at least one wine press. It was this area which Edward Robinson, the famed 19th-century American explorer and archeologist, had mistakenly identified as the place where Saul was anointed.

The zoo is open daily, including Shabbat, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Priday it is open until 3 p.m. Admission for individuals is NIS 10 on weekdays, NIS 12 on weekends. A guided tour of the antiquities, including the wagon ride, is NIS 10 per person. For information call (02) 347952.

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Members of an Air India flight crew enjoy the fruits of Tu Bishvat at the Tel Aviv Hilton.

## Talking heads come to grips

at the top of the TV talk-show ratines. Dan Shilan, after his memorable one-on-one interviews with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, has lined up a weekly political confrontation between opposing forces in the race to the Knesset. First up will be Tourism Minister Uzi Baram and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert who is running on the Likud ticket. In the weeks ahead, Shilon bas scheduled Haim Ramon and Benny Begin. Ehud Barak and Dan Meridor, and Yossi Beilin and Moshe Katsav. To give added spice to the program public survey queen Dr. Mina Tzemah will on each occasion conduct a real-time poll amongst 1,000 viewers to determine which of the two candidates has made a stronger impres-

SOMEONE WHO definitely won't be appearing on the show will be Agriculture Minister Ya acov Tzur. who is not participating in the primaries. Tzur has set his sights on the chairmanship of Agrexco's board of directors where he can be a bigger fish in a smaller sea.

THE ESTEEM with which former head of the General Security Services Karmi Gillon is still held in government circles is evidenced by one of several job offers to come his way. Gillon is a leading candidate for the position of Israel's ambassador to Tokyo. If he does take up the post, he will be one of several ex-GSS and ex-Mossad senior staffers serving in the diplomatic corps.

YOU'VE GOT to be seen enjoying the product," said Australian ambassador Peter Rogers, as he sipped vet another glass at an Australian wine tasting at Avi Ben's wine store in Jerusalem. Rogers. who is something of a wine buff, attributed the idea for the social get-together to Uri Dromi, director of the Government Press Office. Aware that Australian wines had a good reputation world wide, Dromi had suggested a promotional event at the GPO's neighboring liquor store. Most of the Israelis attending limited themselves to tasting, but the Australians present indulged in serious drinking, gravitating effortlessly between the reds and the whites. Among them were Rose Batagol. currently visiting relatives here; honorary consul for Papua New Guinea Daniel Lew and his wife Sonia, who this month will open a llama farm at their home in Ramat Raziel; banker John Ponger and television star George Negus who was passing through on his way home from Kuwait and Jordan.

CABINET MINISTERS should not

GREER FAY CASHMAN

be looking forward to swapping their present vehicles for a new American model. At a luncheon which he hosted this week for his Swedish coun-terpart Lena Hjelm Wallen. Foreign Minister Ehud Barak pledged: "We promise to keep driving Volvos as long as we can."

FEW PEOPLE are happy when their cars are pilfered, but Japanese car manufacturers must have exercised supreme control to suppress smiles of satisfaction at the popularity of their products in this part of the world, after Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal announced the number and makes of stolen cars, Reading out the breakdown on Israel Radio, predawn anchorman Yigal Ravid noted that Subaru, with 9,300 vehicles stolen, was by far the most favored target. He then went on to list the other cars stolen and finished off "including my

NUMEROUS FOREIGN flight crews stay at the Tel Aviv Hilton. and now there's one more. The Air India crew, coming in on their inaugural flight to Israel, made the Hilton their base. "What's for dinner in Israel?" asked senior flight attendant Khurshed Gotta as she led her stewardesses, clad in colorful saris, through the hotel lobby. The fare presented to them by Chef Eran Harel was far from the usual. It just happened to be Tu Bishvat, and the platters were piled high with dried

TWO HUNDRED masks, which celebrities as a fund-raising effort for Akim, are still making news. flan Hageri's studio, which designed a catalog of the masks, came in for a special citation in the recent Golden Cut contest held by the Association of Graphic Designers, Included in the catalog are photographs of the masks painted by Yitzhak and Leah Rabin. The originals fetched \$30,000 at a public auction, and were purchased by an Akim supporter from Argentina.

IT'S BEEN said before, and it has proved to be correct. People tend to respond much more to the negative than to the positive. Thus when a technological glitch last week cut this column in its prime, leaving Kubi Leket, director general of the World Zionist Organization's Information Department dangling like a participle, there was a flurry of phone calls to find out what the item was actually about. The feedback was a balm to the ego, even though the story itself had already

But for those who still want to know. Leket who chaired the sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media, celebrated his birthday on the opening night of the conference in the presence of over 150 participants. WZO colleagues, several diplomats, Knesset members and would-be Knesset members. But Leket's more memorable birthday celebration was this week in Amman, where he and a delegation of 60 Jewish journalists were

received at the royal palace by King

Leket, who was the first WZO representative to officially meet the ruler of the Hashemite Kingdom, presented him with a gift of silver Doves of Peace created by Jerusalem artist Sam Philipe. At the rate that he's collecting doves of peace, the king will soon be able to start his own flock. An aside to the story is that there was some kind of mix-up between the palace and the WZO. When the king was initially ready to greet them. Leket and his delcgation were in Petra and unsuitably attired for the occasion. Another arrangement was made, and something else went amiss. Finally, a late-afternoon time was scheduled. and again it was a case of the bestlaid plans .... so the buses just circled around until they received word to return to the palace. At the time they were at Mount Nevo from where Moses looked out over the Promised Land.

ONE OF the last wannabes to sign up on the Likud list is Yael Amishav, whose busband David Medved gave her the choice of a new car or seed money for her election campaign. She chose the latter.

PEOPLE ON the hustings know that in order to grab the attention of the audience one should always start with a good story. Which probably explains why master storyteller Yossi Alfi is busier than usual. With elections drawing ever closer, Alfi's stable of politicians who want to learn how to captivate the public is

COMMENTING Likud/Tsomet marriage destined for divorce. entenainer Sanderson said: "Bibi and Raful. It sounds like a steakhouse for sol-

ONE OF the things which prepared him for ecumenical work, recounted Rabbi David Rosen, the Anti-Defamation League's Director of Interfaith Relations, was his work as a marriage counselor in a community congregation. He finds that attachments to Jerusalem by members of the three great faiths are not that far removed from those of marriage partners to their homes and

Garinim-spitting champ wins in seedy contest

## The making of a cultural hero

RACHEL NEIMAN

**YARINIM** or roasted sunflower seeds, that traditional Israeli snack, are now also trivia for the ages. Remember this date: February 5, 1996. That's when the first garinim-cracking champion of Israel - and the world - was

A lackadaisical crowd at Ramat Gan's Ayaion Mall gathered around the stage, where the contestants leaned uncomfortably against bright yellow railings. They would proba-bly have been more comfortable sit-

The mall and cosponsor Pitzuhei Yerushalayim posted the prize of a NIS 1,000 gift certificate, good at all Ayslon Mall stores. Furthermore, the event was to be monitored "by a representative of the Guinness Book of World Records." What better way to spend the end of Tu Bishvar? Plenty of people were waiting for the action to begin at 6:30, mostly mothers and babies; fortunately, few of them carried cellular phones.

After the requisite 15-minute delay, the competition opened. Brother emcees Nati and Doron Ravitz failed the tumler test: they couldn't get Israelis - for whom hand-clapping is a Pavlovian response to music - to put their bands together in time to the mood music: a recent remake of "Living Next Door to Alice."

The crowd was supposed to cheer 17 men and three women competing in groups of five. On stage were five settings, each set with two bowls: one empty and one filled with a premeasured amount of roasted sunflower seeds. The Ravitzes read out the rules: crack as many as possible within five minutes, at the end of which each contestant's area would be examined. No shells or seeds could be left on the table or the floor. Messy eating would automatically disqualify the contestant.

This seemed unnatural and unfair to some. They were also oot too happy with the starting position of keeping their hands under the table. Contestants pretended not to hear that rule, but laywer Yitzhak Kira representing the local representatives of the Guinness Book of World Records - was insistent. Doron Ravitz reread the rules in

the obligatory American. Arabic and Gruzini accents, and it was time to Interestingly, most contestants

were professional people who made their livings from day jobs, cracking garinim in their spare time. Avi from Bat Yam was a marketing manager who had read about the

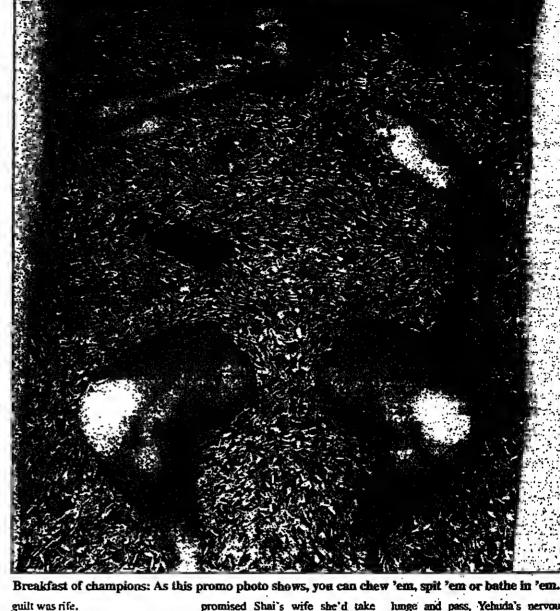
competition, Didi a clothes manufacturer from Tel Aviv heard about it on the radio, marketing man Yehuda read about it io the paper. The last contestant in the first by the initials G.A. and said what he

did was enjoy life. The Ravitz brothers immediately dubbed him "G.A. from the GSS." "And now. ladies and gentlemeo! Only in Israel! Only io Ramat Gan! This night will be recorded in history! The garination competation is

ready to begin!" "One, two. three ... go!" There is nothing that brings out an Israeli's ugly character more than having someone before him who is totally engrossed in doing something. It doesn't matter what the

activity is, as long as it's an opportunity to burl comments and try to break the other's concentration. With the garination competation's start what you had was the Ravitz boys, suddenly not the center of attention and still unable to get people to clap their hands. They then did what came naturally: bug the contestants.
"Wake up. wake up!"

Nati shouted. "The Jordanian, Lebanese and Syrian TV stations are all here," Doron shouted. "All eyes of the Middle East are on you." Jewish



Riki, you have to finish them this week," Nati admonished, rapping his forefinger on the table. "If you don't crack them any faster, we won't give you any

water!" Doron said. This gave Nati an idea, "Ooh, are they going to be thirsty," he said cal-lously, "All that sait. Are they ever going to be thirsty!

A photographer leapt up and took a flash photo of a hapless Yehuda, then moved onto G.A., who was doing the four-way spit. Didi seemed to have perfected the active two-band pass. At the end of the first round, the judges pounced on the bowls, weigh: ing empty shells and uneaten seeds separately in order to determine exactly how much each contestant had consumed. After a few moments it was announced: despite having been temporarily blinded, Yehuda had slowly and steadily managed to

crunch his way through 18 grams. The second group was more eclectic: Yuval from Pardess Hanna was a musician. Iris of Bat Yam, a secretary, heard about the competition through a friend. Uzi of Ramat Gan worked at the mall. Soldier Avihai of Holon said he had been practicing eating garinim for two years, and Motti - who said he was from Tel Aviv but theo corrected himself. saying be was visiting from abroad where be owned a clothes shop declared with typical yored bravado he would definitely win.

They too learned that 15 minutes of fame comes together with 15 minutes of abuse at the hands of the media: the IDF radio correspondent stuck ber mike in poor Uzi's face in order to record the sound of wet, soggy cracking and chewing. Nati spewed bile over the working man, threatening unemployment, being fired or stripped of rank.

Avihai demonstrated the cupping technique, bolding unopeoed seeds close to the mouth in his left hand, while transporting and cracking with the right. But it was self-pro-claimed visitor Motti who won the

round with 11 grams.
On to the third round: Shai, a cook from Kiryat Ono; Limor who didn't do anything from Givatayim; moonfaced Ovadia from Ramat Gan; kib-butznik Avi from Nahsbonim. And then there was Meir from Ra'anana. a gaunt fellow with burning eyes who looked like he couldn't consume anything wider than one sunflower seed at a time. One, two, three ... go! Limor

leaned into ber plate and cracked ber seeds one-handed, while Nati

promised Shai's wife she'd take home a winner. But it was not to be, Plodding Ovadia grazed his way through 20 grams.

It was men only in the fourth: Yehuda of Ramat Gan, Jerusalemite Doron, Avner the ad man from Hadera, and Moshe of Scitex. Then there was Rami of Netanya, who tried being modest but was quickly goaded by the Ravitzes imo declaring to the others, "You can all go

home. You're wasting your time." By now, the audience had become like family. Nati brought a little girl onstage so she could gigglingly demenstrate "how people est garni-im in my house." He massaged the contestants' shoulders and when interfering with them got to be too dangerous, chided the audience for having insufficient spirit. The only joy in baving Rami win the round was the knowledge that, at 14 grams, be was up against very stiff competition. All hoped be would climb high

so as to fall from a greater height.

The final round showed a quartet of techniques - Ovadia with the

lunge and pass, Yehuda's nervous clip and chip, southpaw Motti doing the opposite of everyone else and hoarding shells chipmunk-style in his cheeks. Rami (a messy eater) used the cupping method but so badly that throughout the 10 minutes he was constantly threatened with disqualifi-cation by a dissatisfied Kira.

Although Motti was the crowd favorite, he came in third with 33 grams. Ovadia was second with 45 grams. Yehoda Nagri was named sun-flower-seed-cracking champion of

the world with a whopping 51 grams. As for Nagri's place in history, the ntest premoters exaggerated a leethe bit about the Guinness thing. There is no sunflower-seed category, although a precedent has been set with a melon-seed spitting world record in the US. If it's accepted as a category, Nagri's name might appear but only in the Hebrew lan

guage-version of Guomess. If not, it is our collective responsibility to remember Yehrda Nagri's achievement for the sake of our unofficial national pastime.



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The annual event of the Chamber will take place on Thursday, February 15, 1996, at 5:00 p.m. at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel

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AMOTZ ASA-EL

FROM its onset, the dream of Jewish statehood had a love-hate relationship with the banking profession. Theodore Herzi, for instance, embraced popular resentment toward a stereotypical. world-embracing Jewish plutoc-racy, while at the same time he admired the Rothschild family's clout, which in fact he hoped to enlist to his political aims.

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Having failed to achieve that. the dreamer whose bearded image would eventually adorn hyper-inflationary shekel bills. inspired the creation of a less financially savvy, but much more Zionist institution, namely the Anglo-Palestine Bank, which later became Bank Leumi.

Banking in this part of the world thus got off on the wrong foot, and remained aloof from the nifty business – thrugh not the philanthropy – of the Roth-schilds, Kuhns, Loebs, Lehmans, Seligmans, Warburgs and the rest of the mythical Jewish bankers who were mostly cool, if not outright hostile, to Jewish

For example, a few months after Herzl's death, when the Zionist movement was in dire need of even petty cash, American Jewish financier Jacob Schiff nonchalantly raised \$200 million in order to help the Japanese emperor fight the Russian czar.

And so, left to its own financial. devices, the Yishuv had to make do with the Jewish Agency's APC and the Histadrut's Hapoalim (est. 1921). Big-time banking, even on a regional scale, was usually impossible due to geopolitical circumstances, dominated by colonial politics and Arab-Jewish tensions.

Moreover, the two weren't banks in the orthodox sense of the term - namely organizations aimed exclusively at absorbing and lending money for the sake of making money. Rather they were the financial tools of two sprawling, politically oriented empires, concerned with such ideological goals as settlement building, land reclamation, forestation, or worker welfare much more than with balance sheets.

Ultimately, because of its confinement to a minuscule market and due to its distance from the world's financial hubs, Yishuv banking became parochial, inti-mate, and familial, so much so that even after it was joined (in 1935) by Bank Discount of the Greek-Jewish Recanati family. the three boards ran their meet-

ings each in its own tongue: Hapoalim in Yiddish, Leumi in German, and Discount in Ladino.

The situation was further exacerbated after the launch of the Arab Boycott. Now, an already deformed banking sector - suffering from cumbersome political influence, a lack of powerful competitors and obstructed geographical horizons - was doomed to stew in its own juice for half a

In all likelihood, Israel's eco-nomic history would have been different had the banking sector been exposed to real international competition during all these lost decades.

Obviously, Hapoalim's and Leumi's dominance of this economy's non-financial activity - unparalleled anywhere throughout the free world - would not have evolved in the first place. A stock manipulation collusion among the major banks - like that which produced the 1983 crash, Israel's most tranmatic financial experience - would have been far more difficult to plot.

Ironically, the scandal sur-rounding allegations that the big banks inflated multi-millinnshekel debts owed to them by kibbutzim crupted on the very week when a major foreign bank - Citibank - set up shop in Tel

World banking leaders are by no means immune to misguided policies. Citicorp - the humongous banking empire of which Citibank is a centerpiece - lost some \$4 billion in the late 1980s in bad loans to Latin American governments. Nevertheless, 184 years after its establishment by Colonel Samuel Osgood primarily for commodity traders, it now has offices in more than 3,400 locations from Tanzania to Kazakhstan, and probably represents the most worldly hanking cotity on this planet. Hopefully, its arrival will signal the turning. point in this country's banking

Initially, Citibank will concentrate on corporate finance. One can only hope that ultimately it and its competitors - will also be allowed to engage here in retail banking. Considering that by then Israel's banks will have divested most of their local nonfinancial activities and abandoned their pnorly manned foreign outposts, Herzl's visions of a Jewish state powered by truly professional and impartial banking may actually be realized.



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## Welcome Citibank Tzur, UKM at odds over Procaccia Report

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

'AGRICULTURE Minister Ya'acov Tzur has taken an irresponsible and disloyal stand with regards to the kibbutz deht affair, and is now working against the United Kibbutz Movement's nfficial stand," UKM secretary Zvilli Ben-Moshe charged yesterday. Tzur is UKM's most senior in-

cumbent politician. Ben-Mosbe was reacting to Tzur's demands that an inquiry be set up into the banks alleged overcharging of kibbutzim for loans, and that all kibbutzim shanld have their accounts

Earlier this week, a preliminary report prepared by Prof. Uriel Procaccia alleged that the commercial banks miscalculated charges to kibbutzim over many vears.

Tzur strongly criticized UKM's objections to the inquiry, emphasizing that it does not make sense that cabinet ministers understand the implications of the Procaccia report, while the UKM prefers to

"It is not only a financial problem, involving the size of the debt and the interest rate charged. There is also a big difference if the government pays for the banks' mistakes or the failures of the kibbutzim," said Tzur, adding that Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles, the commercial banks, and the Treasury are doing their utmost to avoid any investigation of the debt question. In reaction, Ben-Moshe said MEIR ROWNEND 96

an overall inquiry "vinlates the kibbutz debt arrangement, in which [Tzur] was involved, and endangers its implementation."

The arrangement is due to be signed at the end of the month. The Procaccia Report - which was commissioned by the Kibbutz Headquarters association places a strong emphasis no the legal parameters the banks used to calculate the kibbutz debts. A published at the eod of the month.

Bank Hapnalim and Bank Leumi, which rejected the findings of the report, said it was commissioned by an interested

"This body [the Kibbutz Headquarters], which operates according to private economic interests, trying to tempt the kibbutzim to abandon their commitments, said Bank Hapoalim.

#### Gov't electricity bill slammed for timing, content **EVELYN GORDON**

complete report is expected to be

THE government's electricity bill was attacked from all sides yesterday, as the joint Knesset Finance-Economics Committee began its deliberations on the

The bill, which opens up the electricity market to a maximum of 10% private production for the next 10 years, was criticized for both its content and its timing - it was presented to the Knesset only a month before the Israel Electric Corp.'s franchise expires on March 5.

Dr. Yossi Vardi, who headed a public commission on how to reform the electricity sector, and private energy consultant Dr. Ilan Maoz both said the 10-year "transition period" is too long, since during this time the IEC will have a monopoly on transport and distribution, a virtual monopoly on productioo, and a monopsony (a situation in which there is only one buyer, who can therefore set the price) on pur-

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chasing from other producers, whn will be able to sell only to the IEC rather than directly to clients. Both men praised the IEC's technical excellence, hut said prices should be lower - something true competition would encourage, but the current bill will

Vardi also strenuously denied that the bill bore any relation to his committee's recommendations, although the explanatory notes to the bill say it is based on these recommends.

In contrast, the MKs primarily attacked the bill's timing. Given that the IEC's franchise has lasted 70 years, it was completely improper for the government to have given the Knesset only a month to consider the bill, said committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor).

Gal said the government had left the committee with three

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choices: working day and night, extending the IEC's franchise for another few months, or simply discussing the bill without worrying about the impending end of the franchise. However, he said, it is too important a bill for the committee to rubber stamp, since electricity is something that affects every person and business in the country.

He asked Energy Minister Gonen Segev to report to the committee nn what exactly the legal situation would be if the bill is not finished by March 5, so that it can decide how to handle the problem.

Dan Tichnn (Likud) favored extending the franchise for a few months so the bill could be discussed at leisure after the primaries. Otherwise, he said, the heavy pressure from the IEC union to pass the bill is likely to inject too much politics into what should be a serious, issue-oriented discussion.

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#### **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

The Economic Forum will hold a conference entitled "Jerusalem: A Center for Tourism in the Era of Peace" on March 3 at the Jerusalem International Convention Center, Minister of Tourism Uzi Baram, Jerusalem Mayor Ebud Olmert, and a number of leading businessmen and women will speak about the challenge of dealing with the growing number of tourists visiting Jerusalem. The conference is open to the public.

Alcatel Telspace, a division of the French multinational Alactel. has selected Foxcom, Inc.'s Sat-Light RF fiberoptic links for their earth station gateways supporting mobile satellite communications. Foxcom, Inc., which has a research and development division in Jerusalem, designs, manufactures, and markets fiberoptic equipment for the satellite communications, cellular and wireless markets.

German seasonally adjusted unemployment surged by 59,000 to a new record of 3.851 million, the sixth increase in a row, the Federal Labor Office said yesterday.

The unemployment rate, based on unadjusted figures, rose to 10.8 percent from 9.9% in December. The unadjusted figure also rose to an all-time high in the Federal Republic's history of 4.159 million, a rise of 368,000 from December.

The seasonally adjusted rise, which was in line with economists' expectations, was made up of 17,000 rise in west Germany to 2.677 million and a 42,000 leap in the east to 1.174

#### Nestle believed to have bought 9% of Osem

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

FOREIGN investors have purchased 9 percent of Osem Industries shares over the last two weeks, fullnwing yesterday's sale of 3% of the company to an aconymous investor for NIS 47m.

Analysts speculate that the purchases were made by the Swiss Nestle company which has now turned into a major shareholder in Osem as a result of the purchase. The shares were reportedly sold off market, by Israel Discount Bank's provideot funds.

Over the last two weeks Dis-count Bank's provident funds have reportedly sold 6% of Osem's shares to foreign investors, in two separate transactions. The first transaction involved the sale of 4.9% nf

Osem's stock while the second the sale of 0.8%. Analysts said it is nnt clear if the shares were purchased hy

the same investor each time hut if they were, the transaction must be reported by next week. Under securities law, the investor is obliged to report the purchase of more than 5% of aoy stock to the stock ex-

Nestle nptions to purchase abont 10% of Osem's shares is due to expire in June 1996. Analysts forecast Nestle will try to continue to increase its share in the local food giant possibly through the purchase of shares from one of the company's controlling shareholders, which inclade the Claridge group and the Propper family.

#### Tempo to split into beer, soft drinks companies

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TEMPO Beer Industries plans to split its beer and soft drinks lines into two separate companies in the framework of negotiations between the Bornstein family. the company's majnr shareholder, and an unspecified foreign company, Tempo announced to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday.

Industry insiders believe the foreign company is Dutch brewer Hemeken.

Tempo said it is in preliminary negotiations and has yet to reach an agreement nn the transaction conditions. Fullowing the announcement, Tempo's shares jumped 5 percent on the TASE. The plan to divide the compa-

ny has not yet been discussed with the company's control com-mittee and board of directors and still remains subject to a number of approvals which have not been received," the company said. The company refused to pro-

vide additional information. Tempo board chairman Jacques Beer and managing director Dan Bibro, who are overseas, could nnt be reached for comment.

Industry sources forecast Heineken may be aiming to buy up to 10% of either the newly independent soft drink or beer companies. Tempo recently completed a deal with Heineken beer which enables the company to start brewing Amstel beer in Israel in

Tempn has manufacturing plants in Hnlon, Netanya and Yeroham. The Hnlon plant manufactures soft drinks, the Netanya plant produces brewery and soft drinks, and the Yeruham plant makes plastic bottles. The company's beer products

include Maccabee, Gnldstar, Amstel, Heineken, Maltster and Nesher, while its soft drinks consist of a wide range of juice flavoted soft drinks, sugar sweetened carbonated drinks and diet drinks. In addition, Tempo manufactures and distributes Pepsi Cola products.

Tempo completed the first three quarters of the year with a net profit of NIS 11.8 million compared with a net profit of NIS 10.88m. in the corresponding period last year.

## ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (9.2.96)

U.S. 402ar (\$250,000)			375	4.250	4.250
Pound starting (£100,00	Ci .	4.3	375	4.250	4.250
German mark (DM 200)	ooot .	1.7	750	1.750	2.000
Swiss franc (SF 200.00	0)	0.1	250	0.500	0.750
Yen (10 million yen)	•		-	-	-
(Fisher ve	ry higher or	lower then in	dicated acco	eding to depo	selt)
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Currency basket	3.4890	3.5453			3.5280
U.S. dollar	3.0970	3.1470	3.04	3.20	3.1300
German mark	2.0913	2.1251	2.05	216	2,1170
Pound sterling	4.7469	4.8235	4.66	4.90	4.8041
French franc	0.6092	0.6191	0.59	0.63	0.6164
Japanese yen (100)	2.8896	2.9454	2.84	2.99 *	2.9396
Dutch florin	1.8681	1.8983	1.83	1.93	1.8811
Swise franc	2.5585	2,5998	2.51	2.64	2.5942
Swedish krone	0.4407	0.4479	0.43	0.46	0.4448
Noneegian izone	0.4796	0.4874	0.47	0.50	0.4854
Denish krone	0.5403	0.5481	0.53	0.56	0.5489
Finnish merk	0.6746	0,6855	0.68	0.70	0.6816
Canadian dollar	2,2668	2.3034	2.22	2.34	2.2918
Australian dollar	2.3490	2.3869	2.30	2.42	2.3757
S. African rand	0.8493	0.8630	0.77	0.87	0.8584
Belgian tranc (10)	1,D174	1.0339	0.39	1.05	1,0298
Austrian schilling (10)	2,9743	3.0223	2.92	3.07	3.0108
Italian ira (1000)	1.9630	1.9847	1.92	2.03	1.9876
Jordanian dinar	_	_	4.26	4.55	4.3977
Egyptian pound ECU		_	0.88	0,96	0.9703
ECU	3.8437	3.9057	_	_	3.8895
Ideh punt	4,8868	4.9857	4.80	5.04	4.9479
Spenish pesets (100)	2.4856	2.5257	244	2.57	2.5161

These rates vary according to bank. \*\* Bank of Israel.

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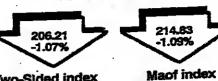
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# TASE falls amid fears of rising inflation

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Two-Sided index

THE Tel Aviv Stock Market finished the week lower, amid concern about increased inflation estimates for January and the question of early elections.

Yesterday's most active stock was Bank Hapoalim, down 3 per-cent on NIS 7.6 million of shares

Investors are concerned that Hapoalim might have to sell its stake in Koor Industries before control of the bank is turned over to private investors. Koor lost

The Two-Sided Index closed down 1.07 at 206.21. That's 2.6% lower for the week. The Maof Index finished at 214.83, down

1.09%, 2.7% down on the week.

Nearly eight issues fell for every five that rose. A total of NIS 90.3m. worth of shares traded, 1% above the average daily trading rate this month of NIS 89.4m., and off 14% against January's NIS 105m. average.

"The general economic atmo-

sphere is not so good these days,

said Eli Nahum, head of trading ar Zannex Securities.

The government posted a NIS 1.5 billion budget gap for January, and "investors don't like the year starting out with such a big deficit, especially in an election year," Nahum said. Some of them might be a little too afraid that the government will be a little too easy with its

There's also "forecasts and fears" about the consumer price index due next week. "Most analysts until recently picked [the index] under 1%. Now suddeoly there are remors - I'm not saying that they are right - that some are picking 1.3%. That's uncomfortable for players in the market.

"And you just have to add the weakness of the dollar, and interest rates up 0.3 percentage points. One doesn't have to be an economist to understand this combination" could hurt stocks,

(Bloomberg)

# Dow hits 5,500 11th record for '96

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks. broke out of a dull morning session to push to oew highs for the fourth day minning yesterday as investors fearing an economic downturn stepped up their purchases of recession-resistant

The Dow Jones industrial average was np 47 points at the close, breaching 5,500 for the first time.

The blue-chip index spent most of the day at slightly depressed levels but shot higher in the final hour on the strength of computerized boy programs. At one point the Dow was up more than York Stock Exchange to initiate trading restrictions.

"All week it's been the same pattern," said Larry Wachtel, market analyst at Prudential Securities. "We start out dull and then we come out in the last hour."

the broader market. Advancing stocks."

issues had a slim 6-5 lead on decliners on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume was moderately heavy at around 400 million shares, slightly above Wednesday's pace.

Broad market indexes also moved to record highs, but their gains were less aggressive than the Dow's.

Consomer stocks, which generally perform better during an economic contraction, were higher. The Dow industrials were led higher by consumer stocks Eastmao Kodak, Coca-Cola and Procter and Gamble.

Pharmaceutical stocks, another recession stalwart, gained as well, with Dow component

智能证明的 数位

Merck moving higher. "The whole world is looking for a sluggish ecocomy this year," said Alfred Goldman, vice president at A.G. Edwards and Sons Inc. in St. Louis. "Money is Blue-chip issues outperformed going into defensive growth

#### London closes 17 points down WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON - UK shares coded weakening of the yen during the weaker for the third time in four sessions as more UK institutional investors joined a growing band
day also helped sentiment. The Nikkei closed 174.81 points or 0.83 percent higher at 21,118.30. investors joined a growing band-wagon of short-term FTSE pessimists. "This market is looking tired," one senior trader said. "It is hard to find anyone who isn't convinced the FTSE is going to fall. The only question now seems to be how much." The FTSE 100 index closed 17.7 points lower at 3,708.4.

PARIS - French shares finished in sharp decline as a 15 basis point cut in the intervention rate by the Bank of France triggered heavy profit-taking. The CAC-40-index closed down 27.13 points or 1.37 percent to 1,956.16.

ZURICH - Swiss shares closed lower on moderate turnover as weak Swiss bond futures weighed on the market. Dealers said trade was quiet in blue chips while some second-tier shares saw active business. The broad SPI index closed 10.51 points lower at 2.214.65.

TOKYO - Tokyo's Nikkei stock average closed above 21,000 for the first time in 19 months yesterday after foreign investors bought high-technology shares and a

HONG KONG - Hong Kong stocks ended substantially lower yesterday as a weakening of index futures left profit-takers largely unopposed. The blue-chip Hang Seng Index ended down 156.82 points at 11,331.77.

SYDNEY - The Australian share market ended higher yesterday,

dragged back into the black by a gold sector coming off its lows and a firmer industrial sector. buoyed by a strong showing from News Corp. The All Ordinaries index closed 1.4 points higher at

2275.1. JOHANNESBURG - South African shares ended a fairly active day weak, with golds tumbling the adepressed bullion price and a dustrials falling on negative was substantially, prompted by substantially, prompted by the substantial sub points to 8,494.5 and the Gold index slipped 95.2 points to

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Members of an Air India flight crew enjoy the fruits of Tu Bishvat at the Tel Aviv Hilton.

## Talking heads come to grips

O ENSURE that he remains at the top of the TV talkshow ratings, Dan Shilon, after his memorable one-on-one ioterviews with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, has lined up a weekly political confrontation between opposing forces in the race to the Knesset. First up will be Tourism Minister Uzi Baram and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert who is running on the Likud ticket. In the weeks ahead, Shilon has scheduled Haim Ramon and Benny Begin, Ehnd Barak and Dan Meridor, and Yossi Beilin and Moshe Katsav. To give added spice to the program public survey queeo Dr. Mina Tzemah will on each occasion eonduct a real-time poll amongst 1,000 viewers to determine which of the two candidates has made a stronger impres-

SOMEONE WHO definitely woo't be appearing on the show will be Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tzur, who is not participating in the primaries. Tzur has set his sights on the ehairmanship of Agrexco's board of directors where be can be a bigger fish in a smaller sea.

THE ESTEEM with which former head of the General Security Services Karmi Gillon is still held in government circles is evidenced hy one of several job offers to come his way, Gilloo is a leading candidate for the position of Israel's ambassador to Tokyo. If he does take up the post, he will be ooe of several ex-GSS and ex-Mossad senior staffers serving in the diplo-

"YOU'VE GOT to be seen enjoying the product," said Australian ambassador Peter Rogers, as he sipped yet another glass at an Australian wine tasting at Avi Ben's wine store in Jerusalem. Rogers, who is someidea for the social get-together to Uri Dromi, director of the Government Press Office. Aware that Australian wines had a good reputation world wide, Dromi had suggested a promotional event at the GPO's neighboring liquor store. Most of the Israelis attending limited themselves to tasting, hut the Australians present indulged in serious drinking, gravitating effortlessly between the reds and the whites. Among them were Rose Batagol. currently visiting relatives here; honorary consul for Papua New Guinea Daniel Lew and his wife Sonia, who this month will open a llama farm at their home in Ramat Raziel; banker John Ponger and television star George Negus who was passing through on his way home from Kuwait and Jordan.

CABINET MINISTERS should not

#### GREER FAY CASHMAN

be looking forward to swapping their present vehicles for a new American model. At a luncheon which he hosted this week for his Swedish coun-terpart Lena Hjehn Wallen, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak pledged: "We promise to keep driving Volvos as long as we can."

FEW PEOPLE are happy when their cars are pilfered, but Japanese car manufacturers must have exercised supreme control to suppress smiles of satisfaction at the popularity of their products in this part of the world, after Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal announced the number and makes of stolen cars. Reading out the breakdown on Israel Radio, predawn anchorman Yigal Ravid noted that Subaru, with 9,300 vehicles stolen, was hy far the most favored target. He theo went oo to list the other cars stolen and finished off "including my

NUMEROUS FOREIGN flight crews stay at the Tel Aviv Hilton, and oow there's one more. The Air lodia crew, coming in oo their inaugural flight to Israel, made the Hilton their base, "What's for dinner in Israel?" asked senior flight attendant Khorshed Gotla as she led her stewardesses, clad in colorful saris, through the hotel lobby. The fare presented to them by Chef Eran-Harel was far from the usual. It just happened to be Tu Bishvat, and the planters were piled high with dried fruits and nuts.

TWO HUNDRED masks, which over a year ago were paioted hy celebrities as a fund-raising effort for Akim, are still making news. Ilan Hageri's studio, which designed a catalog of the masks. came in for a special citation in the recent Golden Cut coolest held Association of Graphic Designers. Included in the catalog are photographs of the masks painted hy Yitzhak and Leah Rabin. The originals fetched \$30,000 at a public auction, and were purchased hy an Akim supporter from

IT'S BEEN said before, and it has proved to be correct. People tend to respond much more to the negative than to the positive. Thus when a technological glitch last week cut this column in its prime, leaving Kobi Leket, director general of the World Zionist Organization's Information Department dangling like a participle, there was a flurry of phone calls to find out what the item was actually about. The feedback was a balm to the ego, even though the story itself had already lost its excitement.

But for those who still want to know, Leket, who chaired the sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media, celebrated his hirthday oo the opening night of the conference in the presence of over 150 participants, WZO colleagues, several diplomats, Knesset members and would-be Knesset members. But Leket's more memorable birthday celebration was this week in nan, where he and a delegation of 60 Jewish journalists were received at the royal palace by King

Leket, who was the first WZO

representative to officially meet the ruler of the Hashemite Kingdom, presented him with o gift of silver Doves of Peace created hy Jerusalem artist Sam Philipe. At the rate that he's collecting doves of peace, the king will soon be able to start his own flock. An aside to the story is that there was some kind of mix-up hetweeo the palace and the WZO. When the king was initially ready to greet them. Leket and his delegarion were io Petra and unsuitably attired for the occasion. Aoother arrangement was made, and somethiog else weot amiss. Finally, a late-afternoop time was scheduled. aod again it was a case of the bestlaid plans .... so the huses just circled around until they received word to return to the palace. At the time they were at Mount Nevo from where Moses looked out over the Promised Land,

ONE OF the last wannabes to sign, up on the Likud list is Yael Amishav, whose husband David Medved gave her the choice of a new car or seed money for her election campaign. She chose the latter.

PEOPLE ON the hustings know that in order to grab the attention of the audience one should always start with a good story. Which probably explaios why master storyteller Yossi Alfi is husier than usual. With elections drawing ever closer, Alfa's stable of politicians who want to learn how to captivate the public is

COMMENTING Likud/Tsomet marriage destined for divorce, entertainer Danny Sanderson said: "Bihi and Raful. It sounds like a steakhouse for sol-

ONE OF the things which prepared him for ecumenical work, recounted Rahbi David Rosen, the Anti-Defamation League's Director of loterfaith Relations, was his work as a marriage counselor in a community eongregation. He fiods that attachments to Jerusalem hy members of the three great faiths are not that far removed from those of marriage partners to their homes and

Garinim-spitting champ wins in seedy contest

## The making of a cultural hero

#### RACHEL NEIMAN

ARINIM of roasted sun--flower seeds, that traditional Israeli snack, are now also trivia for the ages. Remember this date: February 5, 1996. That's when the first garinim-cracking champion of Israel - and the world - was

A lackadaisical crowd at Ramat Gan's Ayalon Mall gathered around the stage, where the contestants leaned uncomfortably against bright yellow railings. They would probahly have been more comfortable sitting on them.

The mall and cosponsor Pitzuhei Yerushalayim posted the prize of a NIS 1,000 gift certificate, good ar all Ayalon Mall stores. Furthermore, the event was to be monitored "by a entative of the Guinness Book of World Records." What better way to spend the end of Tu Bishvat? Plenty of people were waiting for the action to begin at 6:30, mostly mothers and babies; fortunately, few of them carried cellular phon

After the requisite 15-minute delay, the competition opened. Brother emcees Nati and Doron Ravitz failed the tumler test: they couldn't get Israelis - for wbom hand-clapping is a Pavlovian response to music - to put their hands together in time to the mood music: a recent remake of "Living Next Door to Alice."

The crowd was supposed to cheer 17 men and three women competing in groups of five. On stage were five settings, each set with two bowls: one empty and one filled with a premeasured amount of roasted sunflower seeds. The Ravitzes read out the rules; crack as many as possible within five minutes, at the end of which each contestant's area would he examined. No shells or seeds could be left on the table or the floor. Messy eating would automatically disqualify the contestant.

This seemed unnatural and unfair to some. They were also oot too happy with the starting position of keeping their hands under the table. estants pretended not to hear that rule, but laywer Yitzhak Kira representing the local representa rives of the Guinness Book of World Records - was insistent.

Doron Ravitz reread the rules in the ohligatory American, Arabie and Gruzini accents, and it was time to

Interestingly, most cootestants were professional people who made their livings from day jobs, cracking garinim in their spare time... Avi from Bay Yam was a market-ing manager who had read about the competition, Didi a clothes manu-

facturer from Tel Aviv heard about it on the radio, marketing man Yehuda read about it in the paper.

The last contestant in the first group would only identify himself hy the initials G.A. and said what he did was enjoy life. The Ravitz

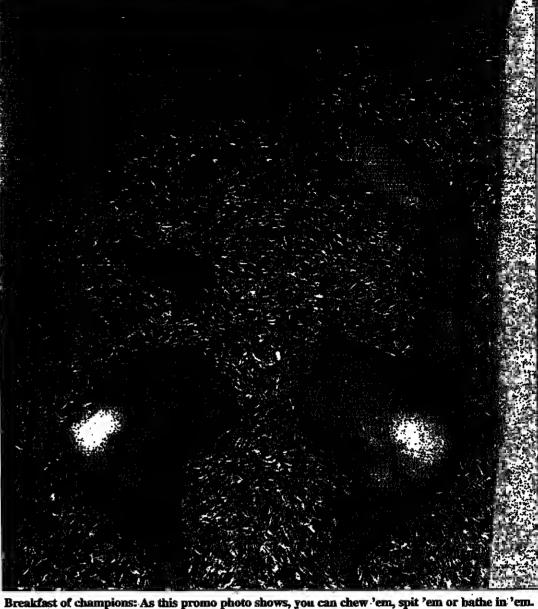
brothers immediately duhbed him G.A. from the GSS. "And now, ladies and gentlemen! Only in Israel! Only in Ramat Gan! This night will be recorded in history! The garination competation is

ready to begin!"
"One, two, three...go!"
There is nothing that brings out an Israeli's ogly character more than having someone before him who is totally engrossed in doing something. It doesn't matter what the activity is, as loog as it's an oppor-tunity to hurl comments and try to

hreak the other's concentration.

With the garination competation's start what you had was the Ravitz boys, suddenly not the center of attention and still unable to get people to elap their hands. They then did what came naturally: bug the contestants. "Wake up, wake up, wake up!"
Nati shouted.

"The Jordanian, Lehanese and Syrian TV stations are all here," Doron shouted. "All eyes of the Middle East are on you." Jewish



guilt was rife. "Riki, yoo have to finish them this week," Nati admonished, rapping his forefinger on the table. "If you doo't crack them any

faster, we woo't give yoo any water!" Doroo said. This gave Nati an idea. "Ooh, are they going to be thirsty," be said callously. "All that sait. Are they ever

going to be thirsty!" A photographer leapt up and took a flash photo of a hapless Yehuda, then moved onto G.A., who was doing the four-way spit. Didi seemed to have perfected the active two hand pass; "At the end of the first round, the judges pounced oo the bowls, weight ing empty shells and uneaten seeds separately in order to determine exactly how much each contestant had consumed. After a few moments

it was announced: despite having been temporarily hlinded, Yehuda had slowly and steadily managed to crunch his way through 18 grams. The second group was more eclectic: Yuval from Pardess Hanna was a musician. Iris of Bat Yam, a secretary, heard about the competition

through a friend. Uzi of Ramat Gan worked at the mall. Soldier Avihai of Holon said he had been practicing eating garinim for two years, and Motti - who said he was from Tel Aviv but then corrected himself, saying he was visiting from abroad where he owned n elothes shop declared with typical yored bravado he would definitely win.

They too learned that 15 minutes

of fame comes together with 15 minutes of abuse at the hands of the media: the IDF radio correspondent stuck her mike in poor Uzi's face in order to record the sound of wet. soggy cracking and chewing. Nati spewed hile over the working man, threatening unemployment, being fired or stripped of rank.

Avihai demonstrated the cupping technique, holding unopened seeds elose to the mouth in his left hand, while transportiog and cracking with the right. But it was self-pro-claimed visitor Motti who won the

round with 11 grams.
On to the third round: Shai, o conk from Kiryat Ono; Limor who didn't do anything from Givatayim; moon-faced Ovadia from Ramar Gan; kibbutznik Avi from Nahshonim. And then there was Meir from Ra'anana, a gaunt fellow with burning eyes who looked like he couldn't consume anything wider than one sun-flower seed at a nine.

One, two, three ... go! Limor leaned into her plate and cracked her seeds one-handed, while Nati

oromised Shai's wife she'd take home a winner. But it was not to be. Plodding Ovadia grazed his way through 20 grams.

It was men only in the fourth: Yehuda of Ramat Gan, Jerusalemite Doron, Avner the ad man from Hadera, and Moshe of Scitex. Then there was Rami of Netanya, who tried being modest but was quickly goaded by the Ravitzes into declarlog to the others. "You can all go

home. You're wasting your time."

By now, the audience had become like family. Nati brought a little girl onstage so she could gigglingly demonstrate how people out garin-in in my house." He massaged the contestants' shoulders and when interfering with them got to be too dangerous, chided the audience for having insufficient spirit. The only joy in having Rami win the round was the knowledge that, at 14 grams, he was up against very stiff competition. All hoped he would climb high so as to fall from a greater height.

The final round showed a quartet of techniques - Ovadia with the lungė and pass. Yehuda's neivous clip and chip, southpaw Motti doing the opposite of everyone else and hoarding shells chipmunk-style in his cheeks. Rami (a messy eater) used the cupping method but so badly that throughout the 10 minutes be was constantly threatened with disqualification by a dissatisfied Kira.

Although Motti was the crowd favorite, he came in third with 33 grams, Ovadia was second with 45 grams. Yehuda Nagri was named sunflower-seed-cracking champion of the world with a whopping 51 grams.

As for Nagri's place in history, the contest promoters exaggerated a lee-tle-bit about the Guinness thing. There is no sunflower-seed category, although a precedent has been set with a melon-seed spitting world record in the US. If it's accepted as a category, Nagri's name might appear but only io the Hebrew language-version of Guinness.

If not, it is our collective responsibility to remember Yehuda Nagri's achievement for the sake of our unofficial national pastime.



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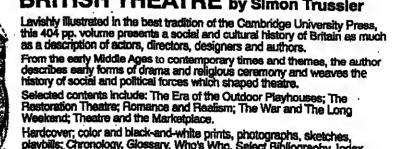
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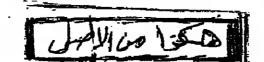
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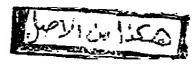
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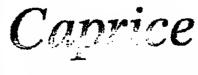
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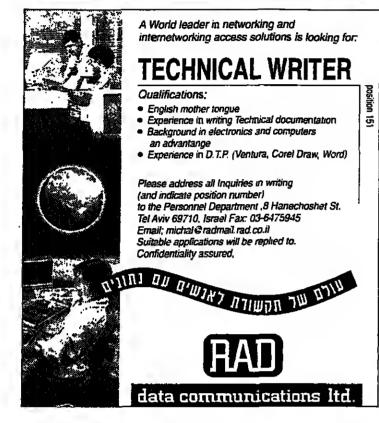


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#### Syria calls on US to normalize links to help peace

BEIRUT (Reulcr) - Syria yeslerday called on the US to normalize relations between the two countries to help the peace talks succeed.

Foreign Minister Farouk Shara said in Beirut that Washington musi have "normal" ries with Damascus, which it accuses of sponsoring terrorism, if the talks are to

"For the US to succeed in reaching the goal ... of comprehensive and just peace in the region based on UN resolutions and the principle of land-for-peace, it must have good ties with the parties." he told reporters after talks with Lebanese

"The alphabet of serious discussion io Syrian-American economic relations is normal ties between the US and Syria first," Shara said, adding that it is impossible to have comprehensive Mideast peace without Syria.

He said the US has to make its role as "honesi broker and effeclive partner" in the peace process credible by having suitable relations with all parties.

US Secretary of State Warreo Christopher, who held talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad oo Tuesday, said Washington has little leeway for improving ties with Damascus because of US sanctions on Syria for sponsorship of

Christopher said an agreement hy Syria to make peace and other behavioral changes would justify an improvement of ties on a "stephy-step basis."

On Wedoesday, Christopher left Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Tony Verstandig in Damascus to pursue talks on the ecocomic aspects of a settlement. Christopher said Verstandig's

role "is to find out from the Syrians what their priorities are, what kinds of hopes and aspirations they have" on economic issues.

Shara said Verstandig had already left Damascus.

#### PERES

(Cootinued from Page 1) who will be heading the new Third Way list, confirmed that he held talks with Likud chairmao Binyamin Nelanyahu, though he would not specify the content. Third Way founder Yehuda Harel is also reported to have taken part in some to the consul-

According to some reports, the aim was to secure Third Way eodorsement for Netanyahu's cao-

didacy io the prime ministerial race. Other sources maintain that the talks were part of a grander scheme to include more parties in the joint ticket launched by the Likud and Tsomet.

The party registrar, meanwhile, wrote to all the parties yesterday telling them to submit their membership lists by oext Wednesday, so that they can be cross-checked for dual members.

#### **SWISS**

(Continued from Page 1)

In 1962, when Swiss law required financial institutions to report assets they believed belonged to Holocaust victims, less than SF 10 million was reported. This was far less than expected at

Naftali Lavie, vice chairman of the executive of the World Jewish Restitution Organization, said the Swiss federal parliament will hold a hearing on the issue on February 20, and has invited Israel Singer, secretary-general of the WJC. lo testify. The WJRO has called on any Holocaust survivor who has any documents pertaining to unclaimed Swiss bank accounts of Holocaust survivors, lo submit information to the WJRO in Jerusalem or New York.

The WJRO office in Jerusalem was expected to announce that it would accept and help process claims at no cost.

WJRO officials said they feel betrayed by the Swiss announcement. Last month, at the meeting of the General Assembly of the World Jewish Congress. Bronfman had refused to disclose information on the status of the negotiations with the Swiss. Bronfman

said that the WJRO and the Swiss had reached a six-point agreement, and the sixth point was that there would be no statements to

Advocates in the Jewish community in New York were engaging lawyers to determine if legal actioo could be takeo in the US against the Swiss banking association and the banks, which also have American branches, sources

At the heart of the issue was the fact that there has been no outside scrutiny of the accounts by independent auditors to verify the banks' conclusions about the number of accounts and the amounts of money involved. WJC officials were also out-

raged at some of the cooditions for restitution, which includes a fee of some 300 Swiss francs to make an inquiry about a possible claim, and a questionnaire accompanying the claim asking survivors' heirs to document the place and time of the account owners' deaths.

The WJC said it is planning measures to help survivors circurrect some of the Swiss banks'

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## Maccabi stays alive with impressive win at Zagreb

MACCABI Tel Aviv defeated hosts Cibona Zagreb 78-71 last oight to stay alive in the quest for

a quarterfinal berth in the European Club Championships. Panathinaikos's 72-69 victory over visiting Buckler Bologna last night means that Maccabi will ad-

vance to the quarter-finals if next Thursday - in the last week of the fical pool - it beats Panathinaikos at Yad Eliahu, Bologna loses to visiting Real Madrid and Cibona defeats hosts Pao-Orthez.

Maccabi's quarter-final hopes remain despite winning for only the second time in the past seven European contests. Unlike during most of the season, the team kept its composure last night and repeatedly came through with clutch plays.

Tom Chambers scored 22 points and pulled down nine rebounds, while Radisav Curcic scored 18 points and had eight rebounds to lead Maccabi to its first victory in Zagreb since February 1983.

Maccabi also won the game at the free-throw line, converting 35 of 37 attempts (94.6 percent), including 22 of 22 in the second

Curcic, a Serbian, was jeered every time he touched the ball by

the sold-out Croatian crowd, but he seemed to use the abuse to his advantage by playing a steady game against the Cibooa big

The Israelis started off slowly oo offense, falling behind 20-16 with only eight minutes left in the

But Brad Leaf once again came off the bench to spark Maccabi with nine first-half points, and Chambers - who was sent to the bench after missing his first five shots from the field - returned to score six points in the last 3:40 of the half as Maccabi took a 35-29 advantage to the locker room.

Maccabi briefly fell behind by as many as five points midway through the aecood half. But Chambers rose to the occasion time and again, scoring 16 points in the half on 4-6 shooting from the field and 8-8 from the free-

He also grabbed five rebounds in the half and blocked two shots in what was one of his better de-

Maccabi'a task was aided by the Croatians' trouble with their major weapon - the three-point shot. They were able to convert

from behind the arc after bringing a 39.6% team average into

For Maccabi, Chambers had 22, Curcic 18, Leaf 13, Oded Katash 12 and Doron Jamchee 7, including the team's only threepoint shot of the night - which came midway through the second half wheo Cibona held a 52-47

Davor Marcelic led Cibona with 16 points, while Ivica Zuric had 12 and Veljko Mrsic 11. Viadan Alanovic, the speedy point guard who fouled out with three minutes remaining in the game and the advantage only 60-58 to Maccabi, had 10 points.

In other Group B action, hosts Real Madrid defeated Benfica Lisbon 86-81, while Pau-Orthez beat visiting Barcelona 82-70 on Wednesday.

**European Club Championships** 

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Cibona Zagreb	Б	7	19
Borfica Lisbon	2	11	15

## UEFA's changes keeping European soccer afloat

GENEVA (Reuter) - UEFA president Leonart Johanasoo knows how commander Jim Lovell of the ill-fated Apollo 13 missioo must have felt.

Relief was etched all over his face after Wednesday's extraordinary day of deliberations with 33 of the continent's top clubs when he realized UEFA bad found eoough sticky tape to keep the European soccer spaceship flying for now.

It is not hard to imagine Johansson in the Lovell role after hearing of December's explosive Bosman ruling, calling-up-UEFA headquarters to say: "Nyon, we have a problem."

Post-Bosman soccer is clearly heading into a different orbit in the oext few years and oobody is quite sure where it will go. Some see a European superlea-

gue oo the launchpad, others predict the collapse of the small clubs who form the basic structure of the craft. Johansson, wrestling with the many competing demands facing

him, has just about been able to

retain control of the command

But the Bosman time-bomb is still ticking away. In Geneva on Wedoesday, the power-brokers of European soccer were coming to terms with the inevitable consequences - the end of the traditional transfer system and of limitations on foreign players in both domestic and European

By oext season, AC Milan for one will doubtless have added three, four, maybe five more foreign players, without paying any fee, to the six they already have on their books and nothing can

competition.

the Italian league or European

"Players were mainly in favor of the Bosman ruling but only the top 200 perhaps will benefit and only a few top clubs too," said-UEFA general secretary Gerd

The few - such as Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Javentus, Real Madrid, Manchester United and Paris St Germain - are likely to scoop up the best available talent this summer and would like to scoop up' the luciative television revenue which would follow from a superleague in which they play each other regularly. .

But if the clubs have flirted with the idea of breaking away to form such a league they have rarely been able to agree among themselves when it comes to detail and UEFA was able to put the project on ice on Wednesday by proposing major reforms to the existing three club

competitions. All will grow in size so that by the season after next there will be more than 200 teams playing each year in Europe, almost double the number of just a few seasons

With extra places going to the top nations, there could be as many as a dozen clubs from Italy or Spain, for example, taking

This may satisfy the aspirations of the medium-sized clubs but it is hardly likely to keep the big few happy for ever and UEFA officials accept they are probably heading slowly towards a superleague.

UEFA media director Frits Ahlstrom said: "It has to a gradu-

stop the club using all of them in al, step-by-step process. We cannot afford to make any mistakes. What is vitally important is that any superleague would have to run in confunction with domestic

> UEFA know they would face an outcry from the smaller clubs if there was a self-contained superleague as they would lose their most attractive, and lucrative, annual league games with the big crowd-pulling teams.

To get a superleague under way, UEPA would like to reduce domestic leagues to a maximum of 16 teams to avoid fixture congestion but this is a move which would certainly be resisted by a majority of clubs in Italy, Spain, England or France.

The compromise UEFA is working with is likely to bring squeals from the players now faced with a sport which hardly stops for 12 months in a year and in which they are being asked to play twice almost every week.

There have already been complaints by players that the number of serious injuries is growing because they are never able to take a break and that they are too tired after an exhausting season to perform at their peak in World Cup or European Championship finals.

With an extra preliminary round for the Enropean club competitions taking place in July in future and with the growing status given to the summer Intertoto Cup, the problem is clearly getting bigger.

But Johansson, a commander determined to stop his craft drifting off into space, said he would tackle that problem by inviting player representatives to future

## Whalers continue to improve

VANCOUVER (AP) - NHL fans know what kind of a season the Pittsburgh Penguins and Colorado Avalanche are having, but has anyone noticed the Hartford Whalers recently?

Since the new year, the suddenly revived Whalers are 10-4-1, including Wednesday night's 5-3 victory at Vancouver.

"Our skilled players up front came through for us," Jeff Brown said after the Whalers wiped out a 3-1 deficit with four straight goals in the third period.

The Whalers, all but counted out of the playoffs at mid-season. were 11-21-5 before their recent

run improved their record to 21-25-6. That put them 10th in the Eastern Conference - two spotsaway from a playoff position. Geoff Sanderson and Nelson

Emerson had scored the first two goals of the third period for the Gioo Odjick, Russ Coortnall and Alexander Mogilary scored

for the Canucks, who are 7-12-5 at GM Place. Penguins 1, Devils 1

Ken Wregget stopped New Jersey defenseman Scott Niedemizyer on a penalty shot late in the third period as visiting Pittsburgh preserved a tle with the Devils.

Niedermayer was awarded the pen-alty shot when he broke in alone on Wregget, but was denied a clean shot when he was hooked from behind by

Penguins defenseman Chris Tamer with 6:20 remaining. Wregget finished the game with 30 saves, including the one on Wregget's backhander, while Devils goaltender. Martin Brodeur made 19 stops. Jaromir Jagr scored for Pinsburgh. Steve

mir lagr scored for Pittsburgh. Steve Thomas scored for the Devils, who extended their unbeaten streak to 5-0-2 while playing their team-record fifth straight overtime.

Avalanche 4, Lightning 4
Petr Klima scored his 19th goal at 9:49 of the third period as visiting Tampa Bay rallied to tie Colorado.

Klima broke is alone and beat Avalanche goalie Stephane Fiset for his

alanche goalie Stephane Fiset for his first goal since Jan. 13. Warren Rychel had given the Ava-lanche a 4-3 lead at 3:27 with his second goal of the season and first since December 1 against the New York Rangers. With the tie, the Avatanche remained unbesten in their

last seven games (3-0-4).
Sabres 2, Bruins 1 (OT)
Derek Plante's 40-foot wrist shot 24
seconds into overtime led host Buffalo over Bostoo io a dnel of Bruins goslie Craig Billington

made 29 saves and stopped at least seven good scoring opportunities over the final two periods before allowing Plante's 12th goal of the Dominik Hassek made 40 saves for

the Sabres, who won for just the third time in 12 games. The overtime vic-tory was Buffalo's first since March 14, 1995, over Florida and the first over Boston in five games this season. Canadiens 4, Stars 2 Andrei Kovalenko scored off s re-bound with 15:02 to play to snap a 2-2 tie and added an empty-netter with 31 seconds left to lead Montreal over the

TUESDAY'S RESULTS: TURSDAY 5 RESOLUS: Pittsburgh 6, Botton 5 N.Y. Rangers 4, N.Y. Islanders 2 Detroit 4, Fordia 2 Dallas 5, St. Londi 2 Calgary 3, Ottawa 1 Chicago 5, Los Angeles 2

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS: Baffalo 2, Boston 1, OT Pittsburgh 1, New Jersey 1 (tie) Montreal 4, Dallas 2 Tampa Bay 4, Colocado 4 (tie)

**Location of Clients:** 

'Me Hoffman Golden Ag

# 76ers surprise Pacers 102-101 Davis Cup team takes

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Jerry Stackhouse scored 30 points and Detrick Alston added a careerhigh 24 as the Philadelphia 76ers surprised the Indiana Pacers 102-

101 Wednesday night.
Clarence Weatherspoon had 20
points for Philadelphia, which had lost 11 of its previous 12 games. Mark Jackson had 20 points for the Pacers, who had won nine of their last 10 and had beaten Philadelphia seven straight times.

Reggie Miller had 19 points and Rik Smits 17 for Indiana, which at 31-16 is off to its best start ever. Bulls 99, Warriors 95

Visiting Chicago got back on track as Michael Jordan's 40 points and 11 rebounds railied them. Jordan had 15 points in the final period as the Bulls came back from a 15-point third-quar-

The Bulls' consecutive losses at Denver and Phoenix came after an 18-

panver and Procenix came after an 18game winning streak.
Joe Smith had 23 points and 20
rebounds for Golden State.
Lakers 106, Nets 96
Johnson had 18 points, nine
rebounds and eight assists as the
Lakers won for the 11th time in 13
games. Their five games with Johnson
were played in a span of just nine days. were played in a span of just nine days. The Lakers led 98-94 when Johnson made the game's key shot, a 3-pointer as the 24-second clock expired with

1:20 remaining.
"You knew I was going to hit one,"
Johnson said. "When I hit it, I said, 'I
finally hit one. Thank you."

Elden Campbell had 19 points and
10 rebounds for LA. Chris Childs had

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The second

20 points and a career-high 17 assists for visiting New Jersey.

Knicks 87, Bullets 82

Patrick Ewing scored 31 points and reserve Hubert Davis continued his

hot shooting for host New York. Ewing scored 19 points in the first half and Davis added 10 in the fourth quarter as the Knicks won for the sixth time in seven games and defeated Washington for the 11th time in their

last 12 meetings.
Davis finished with 18 points. Heat 101, Hawks 89

Host Miami won consecutive games for the first time since December 3 as Alonzo Mourning scored 36 points. Rex Chapman and Bimbo Coles added 16 apiece for the Heat, who scored 100 points for the second consecutive game for the first time since December 6.

Pistons 97, Magic 83
Allan Houston scored 31 points and the Detroit defense turned in a record fourth quarter for host Detroit, hold-: ing the Magic to a club-low one basket and seven points. It was the lowest quarter ever for Orlando, breaking the mark of 10 points. It also was the worst field goal quarter in club history; the previous low was three."

The previous best for Detroit's defense was a low of night-points, last accomplished in 1992



Milwankee's Glenn Robinson is stopped by Toronto's Tony Massenburg (r) and Willie Anderson(l) during Wednesday night's game in Toronto.

The Magic went without a field goal after Shaquille O'Neal's basket with 11:14 remaining. They shot 1-for-16 for the quarter.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS: Milwankee 93, Toronto 88 San Antonio 99, Boston 89 New York 87, Washington 82 Philadelphia 102, Indiana 101 Minmi 101, Atlanta 89 Detroit 97, Orlando 83 Portland 103, Minnesota 93 Utah 102, Vancouver 79 Houston 110; E.A. Clippers 102
E.A. Likers 106, New Jersey 96
Chicago 99; Golden State 95: 1

EASTE	RN CO			
Au	W	L	Pct	GE
Orlando	34	14	.708	
New York	30	16	.652	3
Washington	22	23	,489	101/2
Miemi	22 22	26	458	101/2 12 15
New Jersey	1a	28	,391	15
Boston	17	30	.362	161/3
Philadelphia	9	36	200	231-2
Ce	entral D			
Chicago	42	5	.894	~
Indiana	31	16	,660	11
Cleveland	26	20	.565	11 15½
Atlanta	25	21 22	.543	161/2
Detroit	23		,511	16
Charlotte	21	24	.467	20
Milwaukee	18	-27	.400	. 23

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	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	31	14	.669	~
Utah	32	15	.680	-
Houston	31	16	.633	2
Denver	19	27	.413	121/2
Dallas	15	30	.333	16
Minnesota	13	32	.289	16
Vancouver	10	37	.213	22
Pa	elfic D	jvisk	n	
Seattle	34	12	.739	
LA Lakers	28	19	596	61/2
Sacramento	24	19	.558	61/2
Portland	24	24	500	11
Phoenix	21	24	467	121/2
Golden State	27	26	.447	131/2
A				

# Torpato- 21-13-34 1277-1-29 1-A Clippers 16 31 340 161/2

#### discuss fate of Browns. Seahawks

CHICAGO (Reuter) - National Football League owners begin two days of meetings in Chicago yesterday during which the fate of the Cleveland Browns and the team's proposed move to Baltimore may

One solution being discussed in talks between the league and Cleveland city officials would allow Browns owner Art Modell to take his team to Baltimore for next season, but keep the Browns' name, logo and colors for Cleveland. Under that plan, Cleveland would be promised a new NFL franchise when a new stadium is built.

The NFL owners put off a vote on the Browns move at their January meetings because of pend-

The city of Cleveland has sued to prevent Modell from relocating his team until its lease with Cleveland Stadium expires in 1998. The Maryland Stadium Authority also filed a Federal suit on anti-trust grounds against the NFL in a move to pressure the league into approving the Baltimore move.

Also on the agenda for the owners' meetings, and adding to the NFL woes, is last week's surprise announcement that Seattle Seahawks owner Ken Behring plans to move his team to Southern California.

#### NFL owners Israeli golfers receive invitations to Moroccan tournament

IT'S not every day that Israel receives a royal invitation, and from an Arab State, to boot. "I'm glad and honored for the participation of your country in the 27th Hassan II Golf Challenge International Amateur Championships of Morocco." wrote the First Vice President of the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation, Abdessa de el Gaoui to the President of the Israeli Golf

The gilt-edged invitation for the tournament from April 15-21, covers accommodation for the

Yacl Arad and friends Yael Arad, Einat Yaron and their five-man entourage swept into France yesterday for the esteemed Paris Tournament to be held this

Accompanying the two judokas are two coaches, a delegation head, doctor and psychologist.

A case of needing burly men to carry their medals home or just a

simple problem of how to waste

COLLEGE BASKETBALL WEDNESDAY'S TOP 25 RESULTS: No. 2. Kentucky 120, Vanderbilt 81 No. 3. Kansas 89, No. 21 Iowa State 70 No. 5. Cincinnati 81, St. Louis 49
No. 9. Wake Forest 81, Florida State 67
No. 13 Texas Tech 85, Texas Chr. 70
No. 14. Purdue 75, Wisconsin 42
No. 16. Arizona 71, Arizona State 69 No. 18. Syracuse 71, Arnzona State 69 No. 18. Syracuse 73, Phisburgh 67 No. 19. Iowa 88, Northwestern 77 No. 22. Boston College 89, St. John's 73 No. 24. E. Michigan 89, W. Mich. 83

The Israel Center and The Jerusalem Post The Golden Age or Jewish Easeball\*

codesion come of the Burne's Geometrical

#### HEATHER CHAIT

Money talks

On the subject of money and its purse-strings - Deputy Minister of Education and Sport Micha Goldman met yesterday with the Sports Federation of Israel heads.

After lashing out at resigned SFI chairman Yehezkel Harmelech for his accusations in recent weeks, Goldman said he had every intention of honoring his financial

He said the sum of NIS 4 million would be given to the unions on condition that they suhmitted their financial statements by February 14 and if the SFI covered all their 1995 debts and did not suddenly unearth debts from earlier years."The government will not be seen as the paying body while while the SFI continnes to waste," said Goldman.

Silver fences Fencer Yoav Oppenberg laid aside his IDF gun for his lance to win a silver medal at a competition in Italy this week, the first taste of international success for the 19-year-old soldier from

Following their leaders While their older generation is making a splash in the World Cup in Europe, the national youth swimming team is now in Germany for a competition.

The nine youngsters will be giving their all to meet the criteria needed to enter the European Youth Championships Copenhagen in August.

Harazi's colors We know Ronen Harazi can turn an entire Teddy Stadium to hright yellow but the power he wields over traffic lights is something

This week Harazi was involved in a road accident in Givatavim which took the dazzle out of his Alfa 164 but left him analyzing the situation as, "There are prob-lems at this light. I had green and so did the other driver.

#### AROUND THE HORN

Expos reach two-year deal with Segui First haseman David Segui and the Montreal Expos agreed Wednesday to a two-year deal worth about \$3 million shortly after

their arbitration hearing in Chicago. The sides argued their case before Ralph Berger before agreeing to the contract. Segui had asked for a raise from \$755,557 to \$2m. Montreal had asked for \$1.1m.

Segui was the Expos' player of the year in 1995 after finishing seventh in the NL with a .309 batting average, 12 home runs and 68 RBIs. He was second among NL first basemen with a .997 fielding

Montreal has two more players, pitchers Jeff Fassero and Tim Scott, scheduled for arbitration.

Cubs re-sign Castillo

The Chicago Cubs came to terms Wednesday with the last of their arbitration-eligible players, agreeing to a \$1.6 million, one-year contract with pitcher Frank Castillo.

Castillo, 27, asked for a salary of \$2.18m when be filed for arbitration. The Cubs countered with an offer of \$1.2 m. Castillo made \$250,000 last season, when he went 11-10 with 6

3.21 ERA and pitched two shutouts. For his career, be has a 34-37 record.



#### ON TUESDAY - SPORTS DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST

The Cricket World Cup preview and all the latest NBA, NHC and British Soccer News, in the 12-page supplement, The World of Sport.

DON'T MISS IT!

# on Norway today

ISRAEL faces one of its sternest tests on the tennis court in recent vears this weekend at Ramat Hasharon as the national Davis Cup team takes on Norway for the right to challenge for a place in the 1997 World Group.

The Israelis have a totally revamped team, without any of the old-timers as they take on the Norwegians, to whom they lost in a corresponding tie in Oslo last year.

Leading the Israeli challenge will be Eyal Ran, the new Israeli No. 1 singles racket (170 in the IBM/ATP world singles rankings). who today plays in the second match on court agains! Norwegian No. 2 Helge Koll (753).

Yesterday's draw at Ramat Hasharon ITC determined that the ue would open with Israel's No. 2, Noam Behr (296), taking on the formidable Norwegian No. 1. Christian Ruud (801. In the reverse singles on Sunday, Ran will open against Ruud and the tie

will be concluded with the rubber between Behr and Koll.

The weight on Behr's shoulders will be enormous. Even though he is not expected to win, and does not have to do so in order to secure the tie for Israel, the added pressure in his first-ever "live" singles rubber will make things all the more difficult for Israel.

Behr, 21, who completes his

army service next month, will remember how last October he almost beat David Wheaton in a thrilling three-setter on the same court at the Eisenberg ATP tournament, but this is Davis Cup, an entirely different ball game. Should Behr lose, the pressure

will be on Ran's shoulders as he will seek to gain a vital first point for Israel today against Koll. Captain Shlomo Glickstein will

only name his doubles team after the singles are over, but his pre-

ferred duo appears again, to be

Ran and Behr. In any event, he has the option of calling upon higserving Eyal Erlich and Davis Cup newcomer Harel Levy. should he chose to do so.

Tomorrow's doubles begins at 1:30 pm, as does the reverse singles nn Sunday. If the weather intervenes and prevents play tomorrow and Sunday, the ne may be moved to an indoor court in Ra'anana, the court has already been prepared for this eventuality, and as the prospects of rain appear to be fairly likely, it could become the second Davis Cup tie to be played indoors in Israel. The first was against France in 1987.

Between today's singles matches, Leah Rabin will present plaques to Amos Mansdorf and Gilad Bloom for their services to the team. The tie is heing held under the banner of a memorial to Yitzhak Rahin, who was an enthusiastic tennis player.

## Top local clubs play away

THE top three National League sides all have away tixtures against lower-placed sides in this weekend's action, but with two of the three having an unsettled time in their ranks, it is far from certain that they will gain the results they are looking for.

Leader Maccabi Tel Aviv takes on mid-table Bnei Yehuda, who slaughtered Betar Tel Aviv 6-1 last weekend. Maccabi, on the other hand, is managing only narrow wins over their rivals, last week its 1-0 victory over froni Rishon earned the team few accolades and much criticism from their supporters. They will need to show much better form against Bnei Yehuda if they want to hold onto the league lead.

Second-placed Betar Jerusalem is ready to pounce if Maccabi should falter, its away fixture at Maccahi Petah Tikva looks to be a fairly comfortable one on paper, but the Petah Tikvans are renowned for causing upsets, so the Jerusalemites had better watch

Maccabi Haifa's in-house trouhles flared into naked aggression

on Wednesday when Alon Hazan and Sergei Kandaurov threw punches at each other during a training session.

The matter was resolved yesterday and after fears that neither would be called upon to play in the away match against Maccabi Herzliva tomorrow.

Maceahi has also not been firing on all cylinder lately and Herzliva will be a tough test for the greens from Haifa.

Hapoel Haifa has a home match against bottom club Betar Tel Aviv. who will turn out under its new coach, Dov Renimler at Kiryat Eliezer tomorrow. Haifa will not want to luse any ground on the top three and this will be a perfect opportunity to take advantage of the weak opposition and keep with the pacesetters.

The Second Division returns to accion after a one-week break and begins the second round of action with leader Hapoel Jeru salem away at third-placed Hakoah Ramat Gan and second placed Hapoel Taiha away at bottom club Hapoel Kfar Shalem.

This weekend's National League fixtures, all matches tomorrow at 15:00 unless stated, first round results in brackets:

in brackets:
Ironi Rishon Lezion v. Hapoel Tel
Aviv, Rishon (1-21: Maccabi Herzliya
v. Maccabi Haifa, Herzliya 18:00 (02); Hapoel Beersbeba v. Zafririm
Holon, Beersheba loday 14:30 (2-1); Holon, Reersheha today 14:30 (2-1); Maccabi Jaffa v. Hapoel Petah Tikva, Gaon Stadinm, today 15:00 (1-3); Maccabi Petah Tikva v. Betar Jerusalem, Petah Tikva 18:00 (1-3); Hapoel Kfar Sava v. Hapoel Beit She'an, Kfar Sava (1-1); Hapoel Haifa v. Betar Tel Aviv, Kiryat Eliezer 15:30 (3-0); Bnei Yehnda v. Maccabi Tel

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Hap. Beersheba	4	5	6	19	21	17
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Hap. Ktar Sava	4	4	11		29 35	14
Mac. Jaffa	4	1	12	15	35	13
Zafririm Holon	534435	3	11	19	35	12
Ret Tel Aviv	3	3	11	19	42	1.2

Aviv, Hatikva Quarter (1-4).

#### 'Brazilian connection' to the rescue

LONDON (AP) - When Brazilian Manchester United against Chelsea visits Coventry, Everton the climb.

Now, with his countryman Branco set to become his teammate, the club is on a six-game losing streak and plunging toward possible relegation from the Premier League to the First

Suddenly, Middleshrough is no longer a force in the title race and the critics are saying that playermanager Bryan Rohson needs to sign nine more Brazilians to halt the slide.

Although Branco must wait for a work permit before he can play for the English club, Juninho can hardly wait for him to start. After all, Middleshrough has the toughest job of all tomorrow, facing runaway league leader Newcastle.

Boro bas slipped from an alltime high third place down to 12th in the 20-team standings. Robson. aided by Juninho in the short term and Branco when he is available to play, has to turn the team's fortunes around. A good result against local rival Newcastle will do wonders for confidence.

The other hig game tomorrow is

which has climbed to sixth after a run of solid performances. Third place Liverpool hosts

next-to-last Queens Park Rangers on Sunday and will be confident of keeping up the battle for second place, despite being held to a 0-0 tie at home by Spurs last week. Tottenham, which is fifth, hosts West Ham Monday.

get three from a game at Bolion, which is last and looks almost certain to return to Division One. In other matches tomorrow,

Fourth place Asion Villa, should

star Juninho joined Middlesbrough defending champion Blackburn, welcomes Manchester City. Arsenal goes to Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday hosts Wimhledon.

In the first leg of a League Cup semifinal, Birmingham City goes to Leeds Sunday.

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ity

WEDNESDAY'S F.A. CUP RESULTS Charlton 3, Brentford 2; Coventry 2, Manchester City 2; Middlesbrough 0, Wimbledon 0; Sonthampton 1,

FOURTH ROUND REPLAY Wolverhampton 0, Tottenham 2; Nottingham Forest 1, Oxford United 1;

## Newcastle signs Asprilla

Mil AN (Reuser) - Italian club Parma completed a deal with Newcastle vesterday that will take Colombian World Cup striker Faustino Asprilla to the Premier League leaders, Parma's lawyer

The negotiations are finally over. The player now belongs to Newcastle, said the lawyer, Leandro Cantamessa. He said the deal had been concluded at the original price of \$10.1 million;
Cantamessa said all outstanding issues concerning Asprilla's transfer had been ironed out in more than four hours of talks yester-

day.

There were problems with Asprilla's residence permit which have been resolved by the English authorities," Cantamessa said,

### Winfield announces retirement

NEW YORK (API - Twentythree-year veteran Dave Winfield announced his retirement from baseball yesterday, saying a shoulder injury would keep him coming back in time for pre-season spring training.
The 44-year-old outfielder was

American baseball's career leader among active players in hits and

"It's a hard thing to say. It's an easy thing to say," Winfield said during a news conference organized by the players union. The 12-time All-Star, who

played for Cleveland last year, has spent 23 seasons in the major leagues with San Diego, the New York Yankees. California, Toronto, Minnesota and the

He finished with a .283 career average and in the top 20 of many career categories: 3,110 hits (14th), 1,833 RBIs (11th), 465 homers (19th). 11,003 at-hats (sixth) and 2.973 games (seventh).

But he hit just .191 in a limited role with the Indians, with two homers and four RBIs in 115 atbats. He went nn the disabled list twice with an injured left shoulder, and Cleveland didn't include him on its postseason roster.

"The severity of the tear has necessitated extensive rehabilitation, and that will prevent me from being ready to play hy open-ing day." Winfield said. "After



working long and hard, I won't be able to make it back for 1996. ... It's time for me to leave the game l love so much." Winfield joined the Padres in

1973 after playing college basehall at the University of Minnesota, never spending a day in the minors. He was the fourth pick overall in the U.S. baseball draft and also was selected by the Atlanta Hawks in the fifth round of the National Basketball Association draft, hy the Utah Stars in the sixth round of the American Basketball Association draft and by the Minnesota Vikings in the 17th round of the

National Football League draft. While he became a star with the

Padres, his 10-year contract with the Yankees - a deal that turned out to be worth just over \$17 million - made him a celebrity.

Yankees owner George Steinbrenner counted on him to replace Reggie Jackson, hut soured on Winfield after he went 1-for-22 against Los Angeles in the 1981 World Series.

WEATHER

# 'GSS interrogation law unlikely to pass this Knesset'

**EVELYN GORDON and news agencies** 

A NEW law regulating the General Security Service, particularly its interrogation methods, is unlikely to be passed by the current Knesset because of early elections. Justice Minister David Liba'i said yesterday, at a meeting with the secretary-general of Amnesty International. Pierre

Though a draft of the bill has been publicized, it has not yet been presented to the cabinet. since the government first wants to hear reactions from lawyers. academics, and human rights groups, and possibly make changes on the basis of their recommendations.

Sane said Israel is unique in its attempt to go "into so much detail to specify how you can exercise forms of torture.

"ti is sinister." he told reporters. "If passed, this law would set a precedent internationally. We can just try and imagine if all governments were to follow this path. then it would mean a serious, seri-

ous setback for the advancement of human rights worldwide." Liba'i rejected Sane's criti-cisms, noting that while the law does permit the GSS to use "pressure" against suspects in certain cases, it forbids the use of cruel or inhumane" methods that could injure the suspect's health, and methods that cause "severe pain or suffering." This is the usual definition of torture, he said, and the bill therefore meets the requirements of the international convention against torture.

Sometimes, Liba'i added, a certain amount of pressure is necessary to uncover terrorist plots and

THE Health Ministry decided

yesterday not to discriminate

against single women who want a

sperm donation by requiring they

undergo a psychiatric examina-

Until now, married women who

wanted to get pregnant by artifi-

cial insemination had to pass only

a social worker's assessment,

while single women needed a psy-

The decision followed the filing of a petition Wednesday to the

High Court of Justice by the

Association for Civil Rights in

Israel against the extra require-

ments imposed on single women.

ACRI asked the coun to force

Health Ministry Director-General

Meir Oren to approve a semen

donation to a single lesbian

woman without preconditions.

Forcing her to get a psychiatric

THE High Court of Justice will

rule next week on the state's peti-

tion against the early release of

leading underworld figure Nissim

At a hearing yesterday, the state argued that Alperon, released on

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Alperon.

chiatric assessment as well.

save innocent lives, and is therefore justified. More than 160 Israelis have been killed in terror attacks in the past two years.

"It is also the task of the Israeli government to protect the rights of innocent people." he said. "The only measure we have to contain the threats of the terrorists' activities is giving the GSS some pow-

The bill states that the permissible methods of interrogation will be determined by the prime minister, with the approval of a ministerial committee and a special Knesset committee. The list will not be made public, but it will presumably be subject to judicial

Amnesty and other human rights groups have charged that the GSS currently uses methods such as hooding with dirty sacks, shackling in painful positions for protonged periods, beatings, sleep deprivation, and confinement in dark, closet-sized cells. It also says the use of force is not reserved for exceptional cases.

Liba'i also insisted that Israel has made "a great contribution" to Palestinian human rights by withdrawing from the major Arab cities of Judea and Samaria, so that now most Palestinian sus-pects will be interrogated by the Palestinian Preventive Security Service rather than the GSS. However, he failed to explain why, given persistent reports of gross human rights abuses by the PPSS, this should constitute an improvement in the human rights

Liba'i and Sane are slated to have another meeting on Sunday,

assessment constituted discrimi-

nation on the basis of personal

status and sexual preference.

ACRI acted on behalf of Dr. Tal

Y., a lesbian who has been living

for seven years with her lover.

Each one of the women has a

ACRI argued.

Artificial insemination rules

eased for single women

JUDY SIEGEL



Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir (right) chats with Lulu Levy, of Moshav Mash'en, at a day-care center for senior citizens during a visit to the Ashkelon Coast Regional Council yesterday. Namir pledged her ministry would completely refurbish the center.

#### Motorcycle Histadrut to banks: Close Fridays or face strike

THE Histadrut is threatening to strike banks if they do not stop operating on Fridays as of March whether the respective bank

managements agree or not. The workers' unions of Bank Discount and the First International Bank announced yesterday they intend to close all their bank branches on Fridays starting March 1, as part of the transition to a five-day work week, even if the agreements to this effect with the managements are not signed yet.

However, Bank Leumi's workers insist on closing Sundays instead of Fridays, and the bank's union chairman. Louis Roth, said Bank Leumi will not join the labor dispute or strike in the banks that

do not close on March 1. The Consumers Council also MICHAL YUDELMAN

opposes the banks' closing on Fridays and demands they remain open six days a week, even if their workers move to a five-day week. The council's surveys indicate that most consumers prefer to settle all their banking affairs on Friday, which is a day off for

MK David Mena (Likud) is heading an acting committee consisting of the large labor unions, the Consumers Council, and Bank Leumi workers' union, which is campaigning to change the banks' closing day to Sunday, Mena said he has presented a bill to the Knesset compelling the banks to render services from Monday to

The head of the bank division in

the Histadrut, Zion Shema, reiterated the Histadrut's stand that all the banks must close on the same day of the week. He said yesterday the issue was brought to the decision of the bank commissioner, who recommended Friday as the day on which all bank brancbes should be closed.

At this stage, none of the banks has a signed agreement with their managements to close down on Friday. Bank Hapoalim's workers have a written understanding with the management to this effect, pending the decision of the official in charge of business restric-

The latter is due to decide in the next few days whether closing all banks on Friday is a restrictive agreement, which is against the

growth afford the country the pos-

#### unit to monitor bus security Jerusalem Post Staff

THE Transport Ministry has begun to employ a new security unit made up of security officers who survey roads and bus stops on motorcycles, Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar said yes-

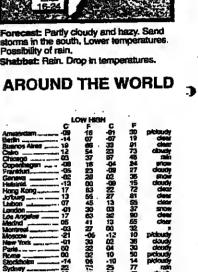
The new unit is part of an effort to increase the mobility of security units and increase the ability to prevent terror attacks, Kessar said. The security officers, wbo

served in combat units, are to survey travelers and question those who look suspicious. Ministry security head Dani Sbenar said the motorcycle securi-

ty unit would increase the ability of the security apparatus to foil terror attacks. In addition to the motorcycle unit, dozens of security agents

tion lines, monitoring buses, bus stops, and central bus stations.

The ministry also said that a campaign would soon begin to







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## 'Country's planning policies outdated'

child born as a result of an anonymous semen donation and the children live with them. They decided they wanted another National Planning child, and applied to the Kirya Hospital in Tel Aviv for a sperm-Administration and its policies are outdated and in need of a combank donation; but the director plete revision. Environment said that according to ministry Minister Yossi Sarid said vesterregulations, the would-be mother day. 'Concepts change and would have to pass a psychiatric approaches change, and national outline plans do not meet current ACRI argued at the coun hearrealities." Sarid said during an address celebrating 10 years of

ing on Wednesday that Knesset legislation is needed to ensure

State fights criminal's release

his eight-year sentence, is still a

hard-core criminal.

equal access to fertility treat-

the Ashdod Regional Association of Towns.

Sarid said many planning and construction projects are based on outline plans prepared years ago. "We must change the entire concept of planning in Israel, instead May 31 with 26 months to go of

of always fighting one project or another." Sand said. He also spoke against construcLIAT COLLINS

tion along the shores of Lake Kinneret and the Mediterranean Sea. "We have only one Kinneret and one Mediterranean and there'll never be another," he said. Sarid said many countries had built hotels on seafronts "only to find later that no seashore remained and the tourists stopped coming." He spoke of possible opportunities opening up because of the peace process, including

sibility of deciding what industrial plants it wants within its borders and which it doesn't want. Israel can be more selective," he said. The ministry and environmental groups are celebrating the end of Nature Protection Week with free guided tours at many national parks and nature

"By running free tours we hope the public will show it still loves the landscape, which is evershrinking." said Oril Nevo. spokeswoman for the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

#### buying electricity from neighbor-ing countries. "The quality of life in Israel and pace of economic ERECTION RESTORED IN ONE DAY! Uncertain erection? Premature ejaculation? Bent organ? Don't despair! Blood supply to sexual organ restored in one day! "OLSHANITSKI SYSTEM" Tel Aviv • Jerusalem • Parls • Bangkok

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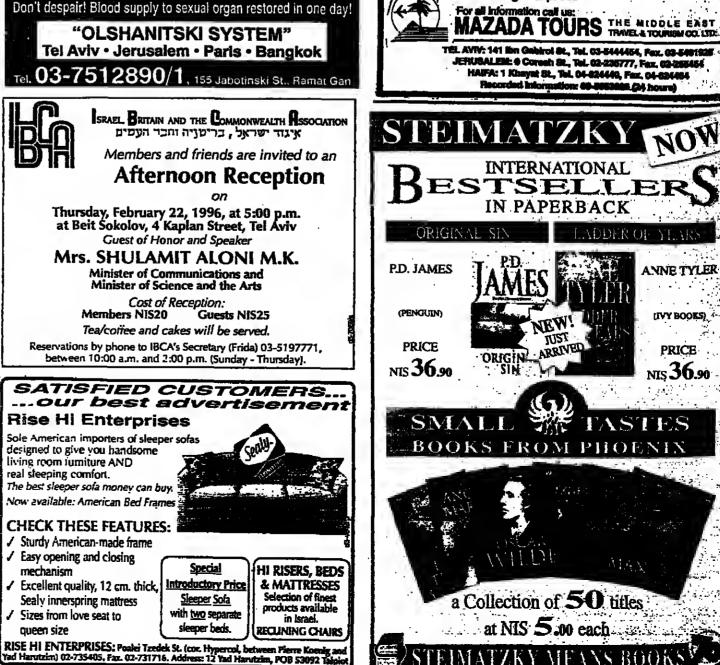
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